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ONCE BIT, TWICE SHY.

THREE years ago, on the eve of the last School Board election, we told the London ratepayers that the question before them was simply and solely whether they wanted to be hoaxed. Then, as now, economy was the cry on which the reactionary party traded; but it was trading, we said, on false pretences. However, the ratepayers fell into the trap; the party of Progressive Education was defeated, and the obscurantists were successful all along the line. The ratepayer decided that he did want to be fooled; and fooled he certainly has been to his heart's content. Even if allowances are made for the increase of children, the present Board has incurred an increased cost for a corresponding work. The result is that, in spite of an addition of two millions sterling to the rateable value, the average School rate has risen (roughly) from 7¾*d.* during the old Board to 8¼*d.* under the present one. We do not blame the present Board for this state of things. The cost of education must increase, as more and more lost ground begins to be covered, and a policy of stinting the schools in order to reduce the rate would be the same sort of economy as adding to the doctor's bill in order to reduce the butcher's. So far from blaming the present Board, they are fully entitled to such credit as there is in breaking a bad pledge. Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, the Board's Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared three years ago that he was going to cut down the teachers' salaries, put the screw on the poor parents, and run up the fees. He has not done any one of these things. If he had, he could no doubt have brought down the rate. But there was no other way of doing it; and as his programme was impracticable and impossible the rate has not been brought down. Mr. DIGGLE does indeed continue to talk of a quarter of a million which he claims to have saved. But Mr. MUNDELLA has now challenged him to submit the accounts to an expert for verification; and until the challenge is accepted the ratepayer will do well to dismiss Mr. DIGGLE'S quarter of a million as a vanishing quantity. The net result is, then, that the ratepayer has thus been completely hoaxed. The question now is, does he mean to be hoaxed again? Or will he not rather act on the adage: once bit, twice shy?

It would speak rather better for the intelligence of the London ratepayer if he were not to be hoaxed twice running. It would also be immensely better for the education of the children of London. The present Board, though they have made little or no economies in popular education, have greatly reduced its efficiency. If re-elected now, the same party will again make no real reductions in expenditure, but they will be tempted by the ease with which they have imposed on the credulity of the ratepayers to push their policy of reaction still further. The principle of that policy and its contrast with the old policy of former Boards may be put in a word: the old Board said that schools were made for children, the present Board says that children are made for schools. Thousands of children have been turned away in the present for not bringing their fees. Thousands of school places will be deficient in the future. These are the two salient features in the policy of the present Board. Each of them is fundamentally opposed to the best interests of the ratepayer. The fees bear in any case a contemptible proportion to the whole cost of education. Is it not madness, after spending pounds on the schools and their staff, to send away the children, for whom that expenditure is incurred, for the sake of a penny—and of a penny, too, which—as Mr. DIGGLE himself boasts—is generally "remitted" in the end? The neglect to provide enough school places to meet future wants is equally short-sighted. We have exposed already the manœuvre whereby the present Board attempts to disprove this neglect. The rule for the rest of the country is to take the normal rate of increase in the school population and then to deduct 12½ per cent. for absences from sickness and all other causes. The present Board arbitrarily raises this deduction to 20 per cent., and then triumphantly shows that it has met all future needs. It is a transparent dodge, and it will bring in due time its own refutation. But only, be it observed, at the expense of the ratepayer's pocket. It is on the outskirts of London that new schools are most needed, and every year's delay in meeting those needs means an increase in the price of the land on which the schools will be built. This is so obvious a consideration that it may be asked what induces the present Board to neglect it? The answer is simple. It is the fear of competing with the Denominational Schools. The Reactionaries work the Board Schools indeed, but their real concern is to favour the Denominational Schools. In the interests of that policy they start the cry of Economy. The London ratepayer has been taken in by it once. Only a countryman should be taken in twice.

THE SUPPRESSION OF THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

An Interview with Commander Cameron.

COMMANDER CAMERON, R.N., the gallant author of "Across Africa," it is an open secret, is rapidly tiring of inglorious ease. He yearns for a return to the land of trackless deserts and unexplored lakes. He is bent upon resuming and extending the discoveries he made twelve years ago; but it is not discovery only at which he aims. His purpose is three-fold—to extend our acquaintance with and influence over the vast tracts of country about Lakes Tanganyika and Albert Nyanza, to scotch the deadly serpent of slavery which is literally devastating districts that twelve years ago were populous and prospering, and to promote British commerce. Commander Cameron is not the man to work at haphazard. He has formed a project of definite and tangible shape, and hopes shortly to undertake a lecturing tour of the chief cities of the kingdom to engage for his scheme the hearty approbation and support of all classes. This week the Commander has spent several days in Liverpool explaining to the commercial men of light and leading in that active seaport the nature of his plans; and there, in the spacious rooms of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, he yesterday favoured a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* with an interview:—

"Will you explain," asked the interviewer, "how you came to take up the question of slavery, and form the project you have in hand?"

"It really came about in the first place casually. I had been asked to attend one of Lavigerie's meetings in London. Lavigerie, you know, is the Archbishop of Algiers and Carthage, and Roman Catholic Metropolitan of Africa, and has embarked upon a crusade, blessed by the Pope, against slavery in Central and Eastern Africa, in the course of which he is to visit every capital in Europe. In the course of his speech the Archbishop appealed directly to me for corroboration of some of his statements depicting the horrors of slavery. That caused me to set to work. I read up all that had happened in Africa since my walk across it twelve years ago, and I found not only that the Archbishop's remarks were not exaggerations, but that in many cases they were just the reverse—things were much worse than he stated."

"Then your present action arose purely from feelings of philanthropy?"

"In the first instance, yes; but I will not deny that a sentiment of national pride was soon aroused. I thought this thing was one that could be better done by England than any other nation. There can be no doubt about it, we English 'get on' with the natives better than any other Europeans. Then, again, we were the first to explore the regions talked of. It was Burton, Livingstone, and, speaking in all modesty, myself, who discovered and laid down on the maps these districts. To England, therefore, should be the honour—and advantage, too, if there be any—of continuing the work of civilization."

"And then, I presume, you formed a scheme?"

"By degrees. My original notions have been considerably modified through conversation with 'all sorts and conditions' of those whose experience and knowledge are of value. For instance, I was favoured with a lengthy interview with Lord Salisbury and Lord Knutsford, to whom I fully explained my views, who made suggestions of a most valuable and practical sort, and who now, I am glad to say, approve generally what I am doing. I need hardly say what importance is to be attached to the opinions of those two noblemen."

"Then perhaps you would give a brief outline of your project."

"It may be better first to mention what its object is." The Commander here turned up a map of Africa, and drew attention to the chain of lakes, which, commencing with Nyassa, works upwards to a somewhat ill-defined point north of the Equator. He put his finger on several portions of the map which represented districts that when he passed through them were remarkably populous, but were now without inhabitants, the people having been either butchered in hundreds or driven away wholesale for slave purposes.

"Following that line of lakes and rivers, which extends for some 1,200 miles," continued Commander Cameron, "you see occasional intervals of land. Now, it is upon the western side of that line that the slave-dealers, speaking generally, find their happy hunting ground; and, to bring their wares to a

market, they must cross either the lakes and rivers by boat or pass over the intervening stretches of land. If only a system of patrols were established to cover that 1,200 miles of water and land a tremendous blow at the slave traffic would be struck."

"Ah, 'if,' you say, but 'there's merit in an if.' Are you not rather assuming the whole question in your 'if'?"

"No," was the Commander's reply; "I don't think so. The thing sounds bigger and more difficult than it is. I will tell you how and why. The lakes and rivers would be patrolled by boats, which would, of course, have 'beats' allotted to them. On land a line of small forts or strongholds would have to be erected, say thirty miles apart. That would be sufficient."

"But would not that leave plenty of loophole for a slave caravan to slip through?"

"I think not. You must remember a caravan would travel slowly, but news of it very fast. The patrol would know exactly where to find their game."

"And the 'personnel' of the patrol?"

"Might be freed slaves and friendly natives, stiffened with a percentage of Englishmen."

"Well, Commander Cameron, so much as to the purpose you have in mind. By what means do you propose to attain it?"

"Ah, that is a most important question. A Liverpool merchant whom I met yesterday said, 'Form a trading company, and give them all the powers of governing.' Now, that, with all respect, is exactly what will never do. Experience, observation, and thought have convinced me absolutely of one thing. The governing body must not trade; the trading body must not govern. The two functions should be kept entirely separate, otherwise you open the door to injustice, to monopoly or a harmful kind, to possible tyranny, to certain dissatisfaction."

"You speak with considerable decision on that point."

"I do, because it is of vital importance. We have had experience of entrusting trading companies with governing powers, and the result has been inevitable friction, to put it mildly. Whenever the two functions have been mixed up, it happens, sooner or later—I don't say voluntarily, but perhaps the reverse—that the interests of the governed are sacrificed to those of the shareholders at home. Then follow the evils I have mentioned. I may say the British Borneo Company have found this difficulty, and have solved it by giving up the trading, and adhering simply to the governing function. And they are quite right. Only in that way can they hope to hold the scales of justice evenly, and treat all traders and others alike."

"Then you propose——"

"To form a company or association, call it what you will, which, either by charter or by Act of Parliament, shall be entrusted with governing powers over this portion of Central Africa, its revenue to be raised either from taxes—which the natives would gladly pay in view of the protection afforded them—or by dues upon traders. As philanthropy without a profit is not a very popular cry nowadays, I suppose the members of such a society or association would look to a pecuniary return, so let a fixed and moderate interest be paid them, to come also out of the revenue. You may say that at this rate my governing body becomes at once a trading body—that it trades in governing. I admit it; but my reply is that in no other way could you form a governing body, and clearly this would find its interest lie in the direction of treating every one with fairness, preventing monopoly—in fact, in governing righteously and well, and, of course, in encouraging the development of this marvellously fertile country."

Asked if he had ventilated his project to many people, Commander Cameron's reply was in the affirmative. Besides Lords Salisbury and Knutsford, Mr. Gladstone had expressed (on a postcard) his sympathy with the movement, and his regret that his age prevented him from taking up new duties in Parliament. A whole string of famous names from the Duke of Westminster and the Archbishop of Canterbury downwards were rattled off by the Commander as those of persons taking a more or less active interest in the matter. Before leaving Commander Cameron the interviewer asked his opinion about Stanley's safety. The reply was very guarded. "There is no absolute cause for despair, but cause for grave anxiety." Tippoo Tib, the Commander added, was at one time a "very decent fellow." His intelligence, energy, and powers of organization were remarkable, and accounted for the wide stretch of Africa over which his name was a charm. Unfortunately Tippoo had got into the position of being unable to control the more unquiet spirits around him but by leading them on.

SOME GUESSES ABOUT PLAYING CARDS.

IN Europe there are two kinds of playing cards most commonly in use: the French cards, the ones we use, and the Spanish or Italian cards, used chiefly in Southern Europe. Our cards reached us through France, and are said to have been invented to soothe the madness of King Charles. Italian cards are possibly a Saracenic invention, and came into Italy through Spain. There are considerable differences between those two kinds of cards, though in both the full pack consists of fifty-two. In the Italian pack the suits are cups (coppe), swords (spade), money (denari), and clubs (bastoni), fancifully said to represent the four great classes of the world, the priests, the soldiers, the merchants, and the peasants.

In the case of the Italian pack, these four things—cups, swords, money, and clubs—are really represented on the cards; the figures are really, though often roughly, drawings of cups, swords, money, and clubs. But in our pack this is hardly the case. Hearts are all right, but why should a lozenge be called a diamond? Its French name—carreau—is nearer; and though you might just possibly call a spade a spade I think you would still be adopting a euphemism. Our spade is made more like the bargee's "bloody" (we may use the word now that it has been whitewashed by the New English Dictionary) shovel; our spade is, in fact, not a spade at all, but the French pique, a spear-head, while in the case of clubs all resemblance has disappeared; the French trefoil could never at any time have been a club.

The names of our two black suits, then, do not correspond to the figures represented upon them. How did this come about? Is it possible that, while keeping the French figures, we have adopted the Italian names? Thus, in the case of spades, have we taken the French spear-head and the Italian name *spade*, and, following the sound alone, and not the meaning, converted it into spade and spades; while in the case of clubs, have we kept the French trefoil, but translated the Italian bastonis, and called the suit clubs?

The Italian court cards, instead of king, queen, and knave, are king (re), knight (cavallo), and foot soldier (fante). The queen does not exist in Italian cards: she is a French invention. But why has the foot soldier become a knave? Through the French valet, it is said; but, though a French master no doubt often called his valet a knave, can knave be said to be a true translation of valet? Knave comes to us through the German knabe, a boy or body-servant, like the Italian ragazzo; and so far, it may perhaps be taken to represent valet. But our knave and the Italian fante both have swords; they are soldiers. And this leads us to suggest another derivation for our knave. Bibliophile Jacob remarks that the Italian fante corresponds to the naib in Saracenic cards; and naibi came to be used as a generic name for cards in Italy, as early as the close of the fourteenth century. The word naib means a lieutenant, the man under a captain or knight. Is it possible that our knave is derived directly from the Saracenic naib, with a false explanation, referring to valet and knabe, and he is not a knave at all, but a foot soldier as much as the Italian fante?

Three of the Italian aces, cups, swords, and clubs, have mottoes inscribed upon them. Swords bears—

Non ti fidar di me s' el cuor ti manca.
(In me you must not put your trust
If courage fail you for the thrust.)

Clubs has—

Se ti perdi tuo danno.
(If me away you toss
Yours the loss.)

Cups have a mysterious motto, for which I have never been able to find an explanation:—

Per un punto Martin ti è persa la cappa.

What is a "punto Martin?" and does it refer to the Pope who had not a quatrin, or to St. Martin?

Playing at Saint Martin's joke
You have lost your cloak.

Besides these mottoes on the aces, there are certain gnomic phrases connected with the various suits. These are uttered in the course of the game, as the spirit moves them, by one or by all of the players. For example, a player will play denari, and will say, quite *sotto voce*,

Denari, chi non ha amor non prende.
(The man without income
Love treats like a nincom.)

Or again, he will only get as far as "denari," when all the players will add, in dreamy voices, "chi ga spesi e chi ga ciari"—

This is tin;
Some have it thick and some have it thin.

Or "spade, chi sta in piede non cadde"—

This is a brand;
You will not fall if you manage to stand.

No one takes any notice of these remarks; the game goes on all the same, and no one is obliged to utter the mystic phrases; but, murmured in dreamy, far-off voices by all the players, they give a strange feeling of mystery and incantation to a game of briscola or tresette in an Italian osteria.

*"THE EULOGY OF RICHARD JEFFERIES."**

To know something of the life of Richard Jefferies, the prose-poet of natural history, has doubtless been the desire of many readers who have fallen under the spell of that most potent magician of field and forest and hillside. The seclusion in which Jefferies lived had the effect of keeping him unknown as a man, even to those who were familiar with him as a writer; and, though in his autobiographical "Story of my Heart" he to some extent unmasked his intellectual personality, his admirers were still left uninformed of the actual facts of his life. These facts are now set before us in Mr. Besant's welcome volume, which—presumably with the object of taking the critical bull by the horns—has been entitled "The Eulogy of Richard Jefferies." It is, in fact, a biographical study, containing extracts from Jefferies's letters and quotations from his works, and, though by no means unduly eulogistic, is avowedly the work of one who is thoroughly convinced of the greatness of Jefferies's genius. The points which chiefly demand our attention are, first, the story of Jefferies's life; and secondly, Mr. Besant's manner of presenting it.

Richard Jefferies was born in 1848, of a good old family of Wiltshire

* "The Eulogy of Richard Jefferies." By Walter Besant. (London: Chatto and Windus. 1888.)

yeomanry, at the farmhouse of Coate, a charming old-fashioned building situated among gardens and orchards, within three miles of Swindon. The country around, where he formed his earliest associations with nature, is a tract of wild, breezy downs, full of interest alike for the naturalist and the antiquarian, and as such described again and again by Jefferies in his sketches of open-air life. From boyhood he was proud, sensitive, reserved; of simple habits, and making few friends; an indefatigable reader, yet craving a large amount of outdoor exercise as an absolute necessity of existence. His literary tendencies were of an early date, but were not encouraged by his father, the Farmer Iden of "Amaryllis at the Fair," a quiet, observant man, from whom he seems to have inherited his intense sympathies with nature. At the age of seventeen, when he was a tall, thin youth, not physically strong, but possessing great powers of endurance, he entered on the career of a journalist, working for the *North Wilts Herald* and other local papers, and already experiencing that stress of poverty from which he was destined never to be wholly exempt. During the first ten or twelve years of his literary apprenticeship he wrote many worthless novels, few of which he succeeded in getting published; but, in spite of the many rebuffs he received, he persisted for a long time in the delusion that his powers lay in that direction. Some amusing instances of his sanguine temperament appear in the early letters. He sends some boyish verses to the Prince Imperial, and hails a very ordinary acknowledgment as "a wonderful recommendation." He consults Disraeli about the publication of a novel, and finds "a guarantee of success" in the politely evasive answer of that astute statesman. So great is his infatuation that even a publisher's assurance of "full consideration" is welcomed by him as "a very promising phrase." It is sad to read how this early hopefulness was gradually replaced by despondency. "You have no idea," he wrote in 1873, "of the wretched feeling produced by incessant disappointment, and the long, long months of weary waiting for decisions without the least hope."

It was owing to his really sound knowledge of agricultural questions that Jefferies first met with any success in literature, and was gradually directed to a right appreciation of his own powers, and a sense of the true scope of his genius. The publication, in 1872, of some letters which he addressed to the *Times* on the position of the tenant farmer brought him the reputation of being an authority on such topics, and gained him admittance to the pages of *Fraser*, the *Fortnightly Review*, and other periodicals. In 1874 he was married to the daughter of one of his father's neighbours; and three years later he left Swindon, in order to carry on his literary work within easier reach of London. Now began the period of his real excellence as a writer, for in his "Gamekeeper at Home" he struck the vein which for the ten remaining years of his life he worked with such diligence and success, as may be seen by a reference to the list of the sixteen books published by him within that time. He became, in fact, the Thoreau of English literature, rivalling or even surpassing Thoreau in his extraordinarily keen observation of nature, his instinctive sense of woodcraft, his passion for out-door life, and especially in that spirituality of thought which runs through all his writings, and differentiates them from the simpler and more homely utterances of old Gilbert White. But though Jefferies was now recognized as a master in his profession, and though his books found ready publishers and not a few readers, he still remained a poor man, and from the time when he was first struck down by illness in 1881 he was seldom free from intense bodily suffering and mental anxiety. "Three great giants are against me," so he wrote in one of his last note-books, "disease, despair, and poverty." "Everything possible," says Mr. Besant, "of long-continued torture, necessity of work, poverty, anxiety, and hope of recovery continually deferred, are crammed into the miserable record which closes this volume." During these last sad years Jefferies several times changed his place of residence, for after living at Surbiton from 1877 to 1882 he stayed for shorter periods at Brighton, Eltham, Crowborough, and Goring. When he died at the last-named place in the summer of 1887 he was still under forty, though already prematurely aged by suffering and misfortune.

Such, in brief outline, are the main features of the story unfolded to us in "The Eulogy of Richard Jefferies." Mr. Besant had several excellent qualifications for the task of writing this biography. In the first place, though not personally acquainted with Jefferies, he had been for many years an eager student of his works; while through the accident of having certain business transactions with Jefferies's brother-in-law he was enabled to gratify his curiosity as to the life and character of this most shy and secluded of authors. "Week by week," he says, "I followed the fortunes of this man, and read not only his books and papers, but learned his personal history, and heard what he was doing, and watched him curiously, unknown and unsuspected by himself." Having thus played the part of a Boswell behind the screen, Mr. Besant has now turned this knowledge to good account; and, being possessed of a novelist's sense of picturesqueness and dramatic sequence, he has brought out very clearly the leading points and successive phases in Jefferies's brief but intensely active career, and the several gradations by which he rose to be a master of literary style. He shows him to us first as the country lad, "ill-educated, slenderly provided with books or friends;" then as the struggling journalist, forced by the exigencies of life to think more of the making of money than the production of good work, yet none the less filled with a persistent belief in his own ultimate greatness; finally, as the prose-poet, the author of "The Pageant of Summer," finding his true voice in the depths and quietudes of nature. Mr. Besant's enthusiasm for Jefferies's later work is both generous and openly avowed, but it nowhere passes into idolatry; and the book throughout shows traces of just and discriminating judgment. Having said this much, we regret that we cannot give unqualified praise to "The Eulogy of Richard Jefferies." The monument erected in honour of so perfect an artist should itself be as flawless as possible, and Mr. Besant's monograph is unfortunately disfigured by some very serious defects. In the first place, in spite of his genuine love of Jefferies's descriptive writing, he scarcely seems to have sufficiently appreciated the combination of speculative audacity and spiritual fervour which is so peculiarly characteristic of Jefferies's mind. The chapter on "The Story of my Heart," the book in which this philosophy found its fullest expression, is very far from doing justice to its subject, for Mr. Besant seems to look somewhat timidly and distrustfully on this side of Jefferies's character, and speaks almost apologetically of "The Story of my Heart" as recording "the abandonment rather than the loss of his early faith."

Again, Mr. Besant's book is far from being satisfactory when regarded from an artistic and literary standpoint, for, interesting though it is, its style is often loose, formless, and discursive. A work of this kind must necessarily include a good many quotations; these are sometimes allowed by Mr. Besant to extend to an inordinate length, at other times are broken or capped by a running commentary of his own which is grievously uncalled for and out of place. Here are one or two instances. "Perhaps in course of time," writes Jefferies in one of his mystical passages, "I shall find out also, when I pass away physically, that as a matter of fact there never was any earth." "No earth!" cries Mr. Besant, jocosely; "then no Coate; no 'Wild Life in a Southern County,' and no 'Gamekeeper at Home,' because there has never been any home for any gamekeeper." "It has been my lot," says Jefferies, in a letter to a publisher, "to see a great deal of the Labour question, not only agricultural, but also urban." "Really? urban?" interpolates the irrepressible biographer. "Where, how, and in what period of his life did he get his urban experience?" And "it seems to me," continues Jefferies, "that all politics are slowly resolving into this one great point." "He means," adds Mr. Besant, "that the condition of the people all the world over is rapidly becoming the dominant question"—an explanation which inevitably recalls the lucid comment made by a certain Etonian tutor on a classical text: "*Postes æratos*, brazen gates, probably so called because they were made of brass." It is still more to be regretted that Mr. Besant has given much prominence to the merely commercial aspects of Jefferies's literary career; for, however true it may be that his case affords a warning to young authors, it is surely better to leave such lessons to be inferred from the narrative than to make them the subject of moralizing advice. The lowest depths are reached when Mr. Besant asserts that "such a man as Jefferies, with his necessities of fresh air and solitude, should have been adopted and tenderly nursed by some rich man." "Would four hundred pounds a year," he asks, "have been too much to pay for such a man? I think that from a commercial point of view, even including the year when he was too ill to do any work, it might have paid so to run Jefferies." That this proudest and most sensitive of men, who in his extremest poverty would not apply for help to the Royal Literary Fund, because he regarded such patronage as an insult to literature, should have been "run" as a commercial speculation, is a notion on which we do not care to dwell. It is a comfort to feel that though Jefferies suffered many misfortunes in his short lifetime he was at least spared any such sacrifice of what he valued above all other possessions—his personal independence.

Such, then, are the merits, and such the defects, of Mr. Besant's "Eulogy of Richard Jefferies." It is a timely, interesting, and in many ways valuable memoir of a most remarkable character; but it certainly cannot be regarded as a full and final biography.

REPRINTS OF RARE BOOKS.

Mr. Quaritch sends on inspection the six latest volumes of his "Reprints of Rare Books." If the series is extended and is as utilitarian as are these specimens the collection of reprints will be one of great value to the higher handicraftsmen. It consists of very accurate reproductions of designs for goldsmiths' work, suitable for the backs of watches, mirrors, and other *objets d'art* whose manufacture attained perfection at Paris towards the end of the seventeenth century. Besides these there is a volume of locksmiths' designs, and, perhaps best of all, a dozen plates showing how the *arquebuse de luxe* was decorated with flowers, nymphs, and angels, and, more curious still, including two views of the workshop where the artistic Rigby or Woodward of the day is engaged in teaching an apprentice the names and qualities of the tools used. The poor lad has no easy time:—

> Le premier poinct mis en pratique
> Ianot aprend nom et surnom
> De tous les outils de boutique,
> Fer, Acier, Cuivre, Arain et Plom;
> Outils en Fer, outils en Bois;
> Et affin qu'il s'en ressouienne
> Son Maistre devant qu'il les tienne
> Luy en donne dessur les doits.

A set of these reprints should be exhibited at the "Arts and Crafts" Exhibition. They have one fault, the price; a guinea for twelve to fifteen plates being in these days of processes too much to ask from the skilled but impecunious artisan.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Before the debate on the Ashbourne Act begins on Monday there is another return which some one on the Liberal side should move for. This is a return of all the large estates sold in Great Britain for the last five years. The relevancy of such a return is this: What the Irish members say is that the tenants, in their great eagerness to get a firm hold of their land, are bidding too high a price, and one which they are likely to regret—if not to repudiate—at no long distant day. The value of agricultural land is based on the money value of its products. Whether in the future these products will sell high or low peasant farmers in Ireland are not as good judges as the great landed proprietors and money lords of the United Kingdom. Out of the millions which have been paid recently to Irish landlords, noblemen, gentlemen, and City companies, let us know in how many cases the funds obtained for land in Ireland have been reinvested in land in Great Britain. That would enable us to see how far the Irish landlords really believe in the soundness of the kind of investment which they want the tenants to make.

As a matter of fact, the return would show that the market is overwhelmed with estates which cannot find purchasers, even on terms as favourable as those given by the Ashbourne Act. But if land is a good investment for Irish peasants, why is it not equally good for the holders of the money procured by its sale? If land in Ireland is objected to as a desirable investment for a person who is not going to farm it himself—the objection does not refer to, say, land within a hundred miles of London—the money procured for land in Kerry, Mayo, or Derry, can purchase better land within an hour or two of London, but the holders of money are too wise to do themselves what they encourage others to do.

Whether or not Mr. Chamberlain's new experience of Union may prove to him the necessity for Home Rule, it seems likely that in one matter at least his relations with the Government after his honeymoon will not go so merry as the marriage-bell. When the *Birmingham Post* articles were published recently, Mr. Chamberlain thus expressed himself with reference to an extension of Lord Ashbourne's Act:—

> It is natural that in these circumstances persons should look to an indefinite extension of Lord Ashbourne's Act as all that is necessary. *But there is a fatal objection.* If the extent of these transactions were greatly increased, and if the number of the debtors to the State became very large, nothing would be easier than for the agitators at some favourable time, or after a bad harvest, to bring about a strike against the payment of interest, just as they have in the past induced a strike against payment of rent. As there would be only one landlord, and that landlord would be the unpopular British Government, and as it would be easy to represent the purchase price agreed upon as exorbitant, there would be every temptation to strike a double blow against the British connection, and against what would be described as the British tribute.

Which, from the Brummagem Dictator's point of view, is well enough reasoned.

Are Professor Ruskin and his disciples aware of what is going on in the neighbourhood of Glencoe? That wildest pass in Scotland, whose sternness has struck cold through the heart of every Scottish tourist (unless it be Mrs. Robins Pennell), and whose privacy has never yet been invaded by anything more Vandalistic than a cockney or a stage-coach, is threatened with a railway! The West Coast Railway is being surveyed, and one branch or connection of it, worked by the North British, is to be over the Blackmount and through Glencoe. This seems really too bad. The chief, if not the only, excuse for a railway through Glencoe appears to be its possible usefulness for tourist-carrying. But tourists go to Glencoe and its neighbourhood, for the very reason that there they can see Nature untamed by railways! Is there no longer room for a Glencoe in the British islands?

Last night Mr. Matthews stated "distinctly" that no attempt whatever was made by the police to disperse the people at the meeting at Clerkenwell-green. If he believes what he said, why does he not order the release of Power, who was sent to prison for fourteen days on the evidence of the police, which is now disavowed by the Home Office?

Will Mr. Matthews accept Sir Charles Warren's challenge? It will be a great shame if he doesn't. Here is what Sir Charles says in a letter to the *Times*, dated yesterday:—

> With reference to the debate last night in the House of Commons, I trust I may state that I have never to my knowledge in any way contested the lawful authority of the Secretary of State over the metropolitan police force; and the insinuation that I have in any way contested the administration of the police being subject to Parliament through the Secretary of State seems too ridiculous for me to contradict. I can only express my astonishment at the statements attributed to Mr. Matthews last night, and I venture to assert that an entirely different impression would be conveyed to the public mind about my action if the correspondence were to be made known.

But the statements which Sir Charles thinks "too ridiculous to contradict" are considered by Mr. Matthews good enough to make night after night. Clearly, therefore, Mr. Matthews should publish the correspondence at once, and leave Parliament and the public to decide.

The result at Dewsbury is not ideal, but it will do. The ideal thing would have been a return to the majority of 1885. What has actually happened is that the Liberal vote has all but returned to the 1885 figure, while on the other hand the Tory vote has increased also. Here are the complete figures:—

	1885.	1886.	1888.
Liberal	6,124	5,118	6,071
Tory	3,664	2,759	3,969
Liberal majority	2,460	2,359	2,102

It will be seen at once from this table that the temporary scare which led to abstentions in 1886 has altogether passed away; and that the accession of the Liberal Unionists to the Tory ranks is at most worth precisely 304 votes. That, as we say, will do.

All this week there has been an effervescent murmur of curiosity in the lobbies of the House of Commons as to what is going to come out of this Ruby Mine mystery. There is an ugly kind of feeling present in the minds of many that there is more in this thing than meets the eye, and the puzzle is what this mysterious unknown element can be. Why is it that when Lord Dufferin granted the concession to a firm which offered twice as much as any of its competitors the concession should be cancelled, and the whole thing thrown into the open market again, considering that the late Viceroy declared that there were "no just grounds for cancelling this agreement"?

Another curious fact is that the tenders must be in by the 21st. Seeing that they were only issued on the 7th this gives a very short time to any strangers who may be desirous of ascertaining for themselves the data upon which the tenders should be made out. Indeed, this, like a good many other things about this business, has a very ugly look of being part of a put-up job, and when the concession had practically been approved of by Lord Randolph Churchill and Lord Kimberley Lord Cross will have to make out a very strong case indeed to justify his action in setting on one side the resolution of his Viceroy and his predecessors in office. Without in any way imputing any malpractice to any honourable gentleman in office or out of it, we must say that we should have been better pleased if the Government had anticipated the inquiries which we understand will be put to them on Monday night, and had they offered to afford before a Select Committee full opportunity for exhaustive inquiry into the circumstances of the case.

On the 4th of last September a Frenchman and a Spaniard took tickets from Paris to Dijon, placed their luggage in a compartment already occupied by a party of English, noted the number of the carriage, 20,977, and betook themselves to the refreshment-room until the moment for starting should arrive. On returning to the compartment they found that the English travellers had bribed the guard to remove their goods and chattels into another carriage. They were indignant, but there was no time for argument. They jumped into the carriage assigned them, and escaped unhurt in the Vélars disaster, which occurred a few hours later, while the occupants of the compartment they had at first chosen were all either killed or horribly injured. Such escapes could be related with regard to every railway accident; it is the sequel which is curious. One of the travellers, superstitious to some purpose, proceeded to buy a Spanish lottery ticket bearing the number 20,977, which has just secured him a second prize of £3,200! This may be a strange coincidence; it may be a journalistic *canard*; or it may be a legend invented to throw dust in the eyes of creditors.

A recent circular of the Government of India contains the very satisfactory announcement that within the last five years the number of pupils undergoing instruction in schools and colleges in India has increased from 2,450,000 to 3,340,000, or an increase of one-third. Nor ought our satisfaction to be seriously diminished by subsequent reflection that even

later figures only represent something like one-tenth of the school population of India. Schools and colleges and teachers for thirty million children and youths cannot be created in a day, nor will the thirty millions learn in a day the desirability of going to school. We must be content to know that we are moving, and moving fast. Moreover, it is not only in numbers that progress is being made, but in the range and variety of the education given. For example, the necessity of physical training as well as mental has received official recognition, and we find the Director of Public Instruction in the North-west Provinces calling upon the headmasters of schools to assist their boys in organizing cricket and football clubs, and in starting fives, rounders, hockey, fencing, wrestling, and athletic sports generally. Would that English school boards were equally farsighted!

But perhaps the most satisfactory sign of progress in the Indian Empire is the growth of education and independence among native women. Though as yet the number of girls at school is a mere trifle, it is growing even more rapidly than the number of boys, and new institutions for the higher instruction of girls are fast springing up both in Bengal and Bombay. Especially noteworthy is the way in which native women are taking to medical work. The last number of the *Indian Magazine* in its Calcutta intelligence records the following significant facts: A native lady-doctor has been appointed to officiate as physician in charge of the Dufferin Zenana Hospital. A special prize has been awarded by the syndicate of the University to Miss Mitter for her exceptional success in the first M.B. examination. Fifteen native young ladies have been admitted to the Campbell Medical School. These facts are in themselves perhaps slight, but they show unmistakably that the free ideas of the West have penetrated the zenanas of the East, and they lead us to hope that possibly the next generation will be able to see the lifting of that heavy curtain—the purdah—which for centuries has stifled the lives of Indian women.

A DELIGHTFUL NIGHT AT "THE DELIRIUM."

BY A QUIET BUT OBSERVANT MEMBER.

DISAPPOINTMENT and success do not often attend the same gathering, but though it was, of course, a disappointment to many loyal subjects at the Lyric Club last night that the Prince of Wales was not present, the show, socially, musically, and from the club point of view, was an undoubted success. I fortunately got a sight of the Prince's letter, which was sympathetic in its regrets, and conveying the hope "that an opportunity might be offered to his Royal Highness to dine with the members early next year," which must have been an incalculable boon to loyal and disconsolate members who could not adequately enjoy the good things (in more senses than one) provided in spite of the absence of the glamour of the House of Guelph. Directly I entered the beautiful hall all ablaze with gold paper, mirrors and electric light, that most energetic of secretaries Mr. Mercer Adam, who thinks me merely an amiable member, and suspects me not of journalistic designs, urged me into the concert-room, and informed me that the dinner had been most enjoyable, even the absence of the Prince causing no lack of quality. I obtained a front seat in the gallery, and my only regret was that, owing to the limits of my mortal vision, I could not see underneath it. Everywhere the beautiful white and gold panellings, designed by Messrs. Bartley and Campbell, met my eye; and the touch of light blue, which added a piquancy to the walls, called my attention to some lovely little paintings of apparently mythological gods, with elegant proportions, and I regret to add little more—at any rate in the way of clothing. The scene on the little stage, painted by Mr. Walter Johnston, of the Haymarket, was as pretty as even Mr. Bancroft, who was criticising, has given us; the beautiful gold plush curtain and drapings of Messrs. Atkinson evidently recalled to Mr. D'Oyly Carte the curtain at the Savoy as he sat apparently humming "they've got them on the list." By the way, was the light blue in the panels a compliment to Lord Hawke's "light blue" cricket, to the exclusion of the Oxford bat, Mr. T. C. O'Brien, who beamed, I might say "smote," the company, as if it had been Australian bowling, or was it an indirect tribute to Messrs. Haig, McKenna, and Hannen, the light blue oars, who seem equally at home in a concert-room as a racing boat, though of course their costume was altered for the occasion? Miss Whitacre was singing as I entered, accompanied by her "producer" (including "voice production"), Signor Randegger. There was the Duchess of Manchester in pale blue brocade—how the room showed it off!—talking to our naval champion, Lord Charles Beresford, who seemed to pay great attention to her magnificent pearl necklace, which he ought to have known by heart. There was Lady Randolph Churchill, wearing a lovely dress of orange brown brocade, opening over a petticoat made of diminutive flounces of pale yellow Indian muslin, apparently quite unconcerned about the absence of her lord, it was rumoured on racing intent. Lord Londesborough, who stayed like a man till three o'clock, was talking to Miss Lucilla Sanders, and applauding Mr. Laurence Kellie, who stayed with him, by the way, this year during the Scarborough week. Anon, I spied Mr. Luther Munday, the admirable musical manager, urging on Mr. George Grossmith, who afterwards amused us vastly. Ben Davies was the next singer who really delighted me, and he "warbled" as he has seldom before. I should mention little Olive Berkeley, an American child reciter, with the aplomb of Mrs. Kendal, and a great deal of her talent, was one of the hits of the evening, and she was so beautifully American, to hear her say "haff" for half was a foretaste of a trip in the fastest "White Star" or the safest "Inman."

I then adjourned to supper; it was in response to an obvious hint from everybody else, who seemed to wend their way towards the big gentlemen's dining-room or the numerous ladies' dining and supping rooms. I meandered through the oak dining-room, through a room which I was told was decorated in the club colours (salmon and green), hesitated in the Japanese dining-room, and passed across the Entrée de Foyer, when I noticed a beautiful lady, I believe a Mrs. Macgregor, engaged in a lively conversation with Lord Charles Beresford. I can vouch that I should not have "passed on" had I been blessed with an introduction, and it relieved me to see Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mr. Corney Grain, and Mr. Arthur Cecil in a similar predicament. I looked down the ladies' staircase, where in future the fair sex are to enter for dinner and supper to the floor set apart for them, but I returned to the Louis Seize. I feasted on champagne and other necessities (to me), and merely glanced at Lady Julian Goldsmid, faithfully escorted by Sir Julian, and Lord Hartington, who looked less "bored" than usual, and only between mouthfuls did I see Lady Arthur Hill and a party of friends joined by Lord Arthur when "the House rose." Here was Miss Hope Temple, whose new song, "In sweet September," had been rapturously received earlier in the evening, looking like an old picture in mauve brocade. I finished my supper, and was reminded of a cigarette by seeing the Danish Ambassador and Mdme. de Falbe seeking the charms of Rustem Pasha, who, in his fez, looked the representative of all that is Turkish. Going upstairs to the smoking room I passed Lady Dorothy Nevill, the Duke and Duchess of Leinster, Lord de l'Isle and Dudley, the Earl of Clonmell. I nearly called a conference between the Admiralty and their opponents when I saw Admiral Sir Edward Inglefield and Colonel Brownlow, C.B., in close proximity. I noticed Sir Algernon Borthwick nodding to Mr. Clement Scott, and entered perhaps the most beautiful smoking-room in London, decorated in a Moorish pattern, to see Mr. Lockwood, Q.C., looking in vain for an uncompromising Parnellite, finding only Mr. Charles Hall, Q.C., and Mr. Potter, Q.C., in even the legal line. Sir Morell Mackenzie was leaning back in a divan talking to Sir Spencer Wells, who looked an ideal "medico," though Sir Oscar Clayton either disapproved of cigarette-smoking or preferred mammon (which was well represented by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild and Mr. Reuben Sassoon) to medicine. I noticed, too, the Chicago pigsticker, Mr. "Morell," a tremendous "dood," doing the honours with great activity. During all this time, as I found, after being nearly beguiled into playing billiards in the old-oak billiard-room, to my mind the most uncommon apartment in the club, Mr. Dan Godfrey was urging on the Grenadiers to most inspiriting strains. Then we had more concert. Mr. Standing gave us Henry Irving, David James, Arthur Cecil (who was fortunately *still supping* upstairs. Sir Arthur Sullivan and Signor Tosti played a duet to which Signor Tosti sang, and Captain Walsh, Colonel Eaton, Colonel Mackinnon, and Colonel Owen, and Lady Agnes Bruce imparted a military flavour to the proceedings hereabouts. Among others I saw Lord and Lady Hothfield, Lord and Lady Edward Spencer Churchill, Lady Charles Beresford, Prince Esterhazy, Lord Bateman, Lord and Lady Granby, Lady St. Leonards, and the Countess of Westmorland. In fact, whether in its society or its supper, its decorations or its concert, I never remember to have seen such a gathering in a club. I am an early man—I mean early in the evening. I returned at three o'clock. I have no headache this morning, and I shall go to the next soirée at the Lyric.

THE BOYS AND THE "BIRCHES" OF BULGARIA.

ANY one who still doubts that it was a good deed to liberate Bulgaria from the Turkish rule ought to read the report just issued by the Bulgarian educational authorities. The youngest amongst the European States—considering that it has had a war, a change of rulers, and has been in ceaseless political unrest since the day of its liberation—has effected marvels in the province of national culture. One of the first acts of the Government after the liberation was the establishment of a National Bulgarian printing-office. In an almost exclusively agricultural population the publishers and booksellers of Western Europe were non-existent, and all the school-books used throughout the land are printed and published by the National Office. Bulgaria possesses in 1888 no fewer than 2,000 local schools. The average yearly sum paid by each commune for the support of its school is about 1,000 francs; but there are some few prosperous communes which have voted from 30,000 to 40,000 francs for educational objects. The State grants a yearly subvention of 2,000,000 francs. All over the land the traveller now observes on the highest or most conspicuous spots a new, roomy, and often handsome building, often on a site once occupied by a castle, with plenty of windows, and gay with bright colouring. This is the local school-house. Every building has been erected, after a plan designed and approved by the State, according to the size of the local population. The obligatory school period extends over four years at present. In districts where agriculture is the sole occupation the holidays are so arranged as to release the children for farm-work during the sowing and harvest. In the mountain districts travelling teachers are employed, and during their stay in a commune or district no holidays are permitted. The schools are confessionless—or, to use our not very amiable English equivalent, unsectarian. The schoolmasters are mostly men of a considerable degree of culture, and for this reason are not unfrequently called from the pedagogue's desk to occupy high offices of trust in the State. At a recent census of the state of education in the Bulgarian army it was found that 70 per cent. of the soldiers could read and write. After the battle of Slivnitza the officers asserted, making use of a well-known German saying, that the Bulgarian schoolmasters had won the Bulgarian victory. As there is absolutely no aristocracy in the Bulgarian State—the Turkish pashas having been the only "nobles" in the land prior to its liberation—Bulgaria has no class schools. The entire educational legislation is as democratic as that of Switzerland. The great object which the Government now has in view is the establishment of a Bulgarian national university, so that the studious youth, aiming at a professional career, will not be obliged to go to Kieff, or Vienna, or Zurich, or come under "denationalising influences" during the most susceptible years of life.

LITERARY NOTES, NEWS, AND ECHOES

THE BOOK OF THE WEEK.

The book of the week, from the point of view of the libraries, is undoubtedly Mr. Rennell Rodd's "Life of the Emperor Frederick," which was published yesterday by Mr. David Stott, and of which some account was given in these columns. From what I said a few weeks ago of Mr. Rodd's attainments, the reader will be prepared to find that the life is written with excellent taste and literary skill, qualities which are also conspicuous, I may add, in the Empress Victoria's introduction. Nevertheless, the book as a whole is decidedly disappointing. The little stories of the Crown Prince and Pius IX., and of the note taken at the Jubilee, are the only new matter of interest which I have noticed in the book. The rest of it is but a graceful presentation of traits already familiar and incidents previously published.

FORTHCOMING NEW BOOKS.

Mrs. Mona Caird has written a new novel, which will be published by Messrs. Trübner.

M. Zola's next book will be quite different, he says, from any of his previous works. "I am developing the history of a crime," he adds, "and hope to produce something with powerful dramatic interest."

Mr. Frith's fresh volume of "Reminiscences" is only kept back, I understand, for the illustrations, which have not yet arrived from Paris. It is not impossible that when this book is out of the way Mr. Frith may figure as a writer of stories.

A "PENNY GRAPHIC."

I understand that a new departure is about to be made by the *Graphic*. This is the publication of a penny illustrated weekly, bearing the same relation to the present sixpenny as the *Penny Illustrated* does to the *Illustrated London News*. The *Penny Graphic* should be a great success.

People are often curious to know, by the way, what capital is required to start a paper. That depends, of course, on circumstances. But I have before me the private prospectus of a new evening paper which has just been floated in Melbourne—a city of 400,000 inhabitants. The capital of this paper—the *Evening Standard*—is £60,000.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY'S CROWNING HONOUR.

The council of the Royal Society, in selecting Professor Huxley to be the recipient of the Copley Medal for this year, have worthily acquitted themselves of the annual trust with which they have to deal. What may be considered a crowning honour has thus been conferred upon one illustrious among biologists, and illustrious during the years of a busy life as an exponent to the people of scientific aims. Last year the medal was given to Sir Joseph Hooker, who was, as the "Life and Letters" testify, intimately connected with Darwin's projects and work, and it is appropriate that the succeeding award has been made to Professor Huxley, if only on the score of his having taken so large a part in what he himself has termed "the reception of the 'Origin of Species.'" The Copley Medal, by common consent, is reserved for distinguished savants, who necessarily form the select few. Certainly Professor Huxley is one of them. What is peculiar to him is the literary gift that he adds to his scientific attainments. No one was more alive to this than Darwin himself. "People complain," he wrote to Professor Huxley twenty years ago, "of the unequal distribution of wealth; but it is a much greater shame and injustice that any one should have the power to write so many brilliant essays as you have lately done. There is no one who writes like you."

DARWIN'S FAVOURITE WORKS.

In re-reading Darwin's life the other day, I made a note, by the way, of the books and authors in general literature which he mentions as having given him most pleasure or stimulus. Here they are, arranged in the order in which I came across them:—

Thomson's "Seasons."	Wordsworth.
Byron.	Coleridge.
Scott.	Milton's "Paradise Lost."
Shakspeare.	Gray.
"The Wonders of the World."	Shelley.
White's "Selborne."	Scott's Novels.
Reynolds's "Discourses."	Miss Austen.
Humboldt's "Personal Narrative."	Mrs. Gaskell.
Herschel's "Introduction to the Study of Natural Philosophy."	George Eliot's "Silas Marner."
	Tennyson's "Enoch Arden."

Among the poets, "Paradise Lost" was, he says (until in later life he lost the love of poetry altogether), "my chief favourite, and in my excursions during the voyage on the *Beagle* when I could take only a single volume I always chose Milton." But he was very fond also of Wordsworth, and could "boast of having read 'The Excursion' twice through." Of the scientific books, it was "The Wonders of the World," he says, that "first gave me a wish to travel in remote countries, which was ultimately fulfilled by the voyage of the *Beagle*." White's "Selborne" first set him to watch the habits of birds, while Humboldt and Herschel first "stirred up in me a burning zeal to add even the most humble contribution to the noble structure of natural science."

ODDS AND ENDS.

A German translation of "Pickwick" ("Die Pickwickier"), in two volumes, with eighty-three original illustrations, is about to be published at Berlin.—Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co. announce the twenty-third edition, which is also the twenty-third thousand, of "The Epic of Hades." "Songs of Two Worlds" reached a thirteenth edition at the beginning of the present publishing season. It is, the *Athenæum* believes, no secret that Mr. Morris is one of the happy few whose verse brings them in a substantial yearly income.—On January 1 will be published the first number of the *Ruskin Reading Guild Journal*, a monthly serial, under the editorship of Mr. William Marwick, of Arbroath, N.B.—Mr. Francis Darwin (the biographer of his famous father) has been elected Reader in Botany at Cambridge.—A small book by Charles and Mary Lamb, entitled "Poetry for Children," printed in London and dated 1809, was sold at Sotheby's the other day for £35.

X. Y. Z.

At Home and Abroad.

Mr. Mark Oldroyd, the Liberal candidate, was yesterday returned to Parliament for Dewsbury by a majority of 2,102 over his opponent, Mr. Arnold Forster, Dissentient Liberal.

A Washington telegram says the latest returns show that the Republicans will have a very small majority in the new House of Representatives.

The Paris Municipal Council have resolved, by 42 votes to 31, to set up bakeries. A committee is to study the details.

The Roumanian Senate has elected as President General Florescu, the candidate put forward against the Government, and a well-known Russophil.

A Berlin paper states that a search of Baron von Roggenbach's house has resulted in the discovery of correspondence between the Baron and Professor Geffcken, from which it appears that the latter submitted to Baron von Roggenbach an abstract of the Emperor Frederick's diary.

The Cape Government has reduced the railway rates on goods, in order to meet the competition by the Natal route. The Natal line has lately been carrying off most of the trade, and with the October returns there is shown an increase of 50 per cent. in its annual earnings.

According to a telegram from Chardjui the report of the return of Ishak Khan to Afghanistan remains unconfirmed. On the 4th of this month he was at Kermine, where he was received in the most friendly manner by the Ameer of Bokhara.

The grounding of the German ironclad *Kaiser*, which carried Prince Henry of Prussia to Copenhagen, seems to have been due to the fact that for some reason or other no pilot was on board, but in about an hour's time the vessel was got free again.

The French Revision Committee, after voting the abolition of the Presidency and Senate, is discussing what powers shall be enjoyed by these two estates. Yesterday it passed various resolutions on this point, but its deliberations have ceased to excite any interest.

The police in Kerry have obtained clues which they believe will lead to the detection of the gang of moonlighters which attacked Joy near Ballybunnion on Saturday for having taken an evicted farm, and also the gang who stole Lord Kenmare's Southdown sheep from Innisfallen Island, Killarney.

Thomas Phillips, fishmonger, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, was yesterday, at the Mansion House, fined £5 and costs, amounting in all to £14, for sending six unclean salmon to Billingsgate. The Lord Mayor said he was determined to do everything practicable to put a stop to the practice.

In conformity with a resolution adopted a short time ago by the Paris town council, the prefect of police has determined to require cabdrivers to undergo an examination in the art of driving before giving them a licence. The examining committee is to consist of two jobmasters and three coachmen.

St. Mary's Church, Wallingford, was entered on Thursday night, and the Communion plate stolen. Later in the day a tramp was seen at Basildon, whose bulky appearance attracted the attention of a constable, and on the man's pockets being searched the missing plate was found.

At a meeting of the Kilmallock board of guardians yesterday it was stated that the union workhouse, which had been seized for debt, was still in the possession of the sheriffs' bailiffs, they refusing to leave until the debt of £600, due to the Marnane contractor for the erection of labourers' cottages, was paid.

An inquest was held yesterday afternoon on the body of Mrs. Wright, wife of the Wilts and Dorset bank manager, at Blandford, who died from the effects of poison the previous day. The deceased has left seven children. It was stated that she had partaken of about three ounces of laudanum.

According to the Indian newspapers, more than 1,000 of her Majesty's British Indian subjects engaged in trade on the East African mainland, within the limits of the new German Protectorate, have had their business ruined, been driven from their homes, and forced to take refuge in the island of Zanzibar, through the disturbances caused by the misconduct of the German Company's agents.

The sub-committee of the Revising Commission in Servia has failed to agree on the subject of creating an Upper House, and the matter is to be referred to the full Commission, which in all probability will not agree either. The King, though favouring the system of two Chambers, is at present disposed to let this question be settled by the Grand Skuptschina.

At the Southwark police-court yesterday, Patrick Kenny, formerly secretary of the Builders' Labourers' Union, was committed for trial on a charge of being in the unlawful possession of two silver-plated knives and forks. The articles were stolen from the Holborn Restaurant, but when it was not exactly known. The prisoner said he bought them at an auction in Clare-market.

Mr. Henry Collings Wells, a justice of the peace for Essex, has expressed his intention of presenting to the new borough of Chelmsford a gold chain and badge, to be worn by the mayor. The cost of the gift will probably be £200. Mr. Wells is a native of Chelmsford, and is intimately connected with the borough by trade.

At the meeting of the Royal Commission upon National Defences yesterday, Lord Hartington in the chair, evidence of experts was taken for the first time. Lord Wolseley, as Adjutant-General, was under examination for more than three hours, and gave details as to the state of our military defences both at home and abroad. The Commission adjourned until Tuesday next.

At Dursley County Court yesterday a medical man sued the executor of a deceased farmer for an amount for consultations with the defendant. The deceased could not take any medicine. Judge Jones: It is a very good thing he could not. Probably, if he had, he would have died sooner. Many people of a better class hold the idea that it is medicine that doctors are paid for; it is for skill. Judgment was given for the plaintiff.

A fight, resulting in the death of one of the combatants, took place yesterday at Pontypridd between John Stephens, a labourer, and William Davies, a collier. The parties quarrelled and repaired to an adjacent mountain side, where they savagely fought for thirty minutes. Eventually Stephens fell on his knees, when Davies deliberately kicked him four times in the abdomen. He then became insensible and died on the spot.

Yesterday a deputation from Gravesend, introduced by Mr. Bazley White, M.P., had an interview with Mr. Stanhope, at the War Office, for the purpose of explaining the advantages which Milton, near Gravesend, offered as a site for the meeting of the National Rifle Association. Mr. Stanhope stated that the selection of the site lay absolutely with the Association, but he promised to look at the plans which the deputation had presented to him, and lay the matter before the Rifle Association.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE BLOCKADE OF THE ZANZIBAR COAST.

KIDNAPPED SLAVES RESCUED BY THE BRITISH.

A *Times* telegram from Zanzibar yesterday says:—The Belgian steamer *Brabo*, taking 400 slaves intended for the Congo, was boarded off the Zanzibar coast by a party from her Majesty's ship *Griffon*, and two slaves were taken from her who swore that they had been forcibly kidnapped. She was then allowed to proceed. Had she been arrested the *primâ facie* evidence against her was very strong. In order to engage slaves, advances have been made to their owners sufficiently large to enable them to make immediate purchases of other slaves, who in each case of an advance being made were seized by these owners. There is great scandal about this incident, especially as all the arrangements were made through a former Belgian Consul."

One of the Berlin newspapers has sent a special correspondent out to Zanzibar, which is an almost unequalled act of enterprise on the part of a German newspaper, and may be taken as indicating the degree of interest with which the development of the East African question is followed in the German capital.

Great Britain and Germany having invited Portugal to co-operate in the blockade of the Zanzibar coast, the corvette *Rainha de Portugal* and the gunboat *Zambezea* are about to leave Libou in order to reinforce the Portuguese squadron on the East African coast.

The British Indian residents of Lindi and Kilwa state that the natives would not hurt the English if they landed, but would kill any Germans.

TWO QUEENS AT THE OPERA.

Queen Maria Pia of Portugal and her second son, the Duke of Oporto, reached Madrid on Thursday night, and were received by Queen Christina and the Infantas of Spain. The two Queens greeted each other warmly, and at once proceeded to the Palace, escorted by a squadron of the Royal Guard. In the afternoon their Majesties drove in an open carriage and four through Madrid to the Retiro, and in the evening Queen Christina accompanied her Royal visitor to the Opera. The Opera-house, long before the arrival of the Royal party, was filled to overflowing with members of all the historic families of Spain, and representatives of the science, art, wealth, and fashion of Madrid, and of diplomacy, politics, and the military services. It was expected that the Queens would enter before the beginning of the first act, but, as if deprecating any ovation, they entered the Royal box some time after the singing had begun. Queen Christina, dressed in black, took her place to the right of Queen Pia, who was attired in blue.

QUEEN NATHALIE APPEALS TO THE EUROPEAN COURTS.

Queen Nathalie is preparing a new protest against the sentence which divorced her, and will address copies of it to every Court in Europe. King Milan, on his side, has offered to confirm the Queen, whom he styles "the mother of my son," in her title of Majesty if she will give up the idea of this protest, which he terms "undignified," and calculated only to bring discredit on the Obrenovitch dynasty. To secure the official recognition of her title, the ex-Queen would also have openly or tacitly to submit to the divorce sentence once and for all.

DINIZULU IN CUSTODY.

Dinizulu reached Bishopstowe on Wednesday, his object being to surrender to the Governor personally, rather than to the local Zululand or military authorities. Some mounted police escorted him to Pietermaritzburg on Thursday evening. The trial of the Zulu chiefs was opened on Thursday, the court having overruled a request for a postponement.

THE CONVICT PRADO IN PRISON.

Prado is at the Conciergerie, where he is entitled to stay for the three days allowed him to appeal from his sentence to the Court of Cassation. His counsel, Maître Comby, had difficulty in getting him to sign the appeal, and he only did so when he was told that there were informalities which might be seriously pleaded as a ground for setting aside the proceedings which ended in his conviction. The convict is in a large, high, and well-lighted room, the walls of which are covered with stucco. The floor is of polished oak, and the furniture is not uncomfortable. Prado is allowed to smoke, and is even furnished with materials for making cigarettes. He is very talkative and excited. As might be expected, he denies that he is a murderer. Mauricette has returned to Bordeaux, having been taken away by her mother directly she was released.

EIGHTEEN MEN BURIED ALIVE.

As already briefly reported, a terrible accident, by which many workmen have lost their lives, occurred on Thursday afternoon in the slate quarry of Misengrain, near Angers. A landslip occurred, burying eighteen men. Though a numerous gang of navvies set to work immediately to rescue the victims, it was eleven o'clock yesterday morning before the first was discovered. He was still alive, but his chest and both his legs were so terribly crushed that he died two hours later. Three other workmen were found shortly after. Two were but slightly injured, but the life of the third is despaired of. According to the latest news, but little hope is entertained of saving the lives of any of the other fourteen men.

A TRAPEZIST'S FALL FROM THE TIGHT ROPE.

A professional trapezist or tight-rope walker, Don Juan Caicedo, a native of Columbia, in South America, who has for several weeks been performing at Vienna, and who was to have appeared next week in London, made an extraordinary attempt at suicide in public on Thursday night, owing, it is said, to a violent quarrel he had had in the course of the day with his wife. At the performance on Thursday evening he ascended, as usual, the tight rope, and then, to the consternation of the vast audience, he suddenly threw away his balancing-rod, and a second afterwards fell, head foremost, a distance of twenty to thirty feet, on to the planks of the stage. He was picked up in a perfectly unconscious state, and at once taken to the General Hospital, leaving the audience naturally in a state of the greatest excitement. The examination showed that the unfortunate acrobat was suffering from concussion of the brain and other serious internal injuries, from which it is doubtful whether he will recover.

SIR MORELL MACKENZIE writes about the Soden Mineral Pastilles:—"I regard them as extremely valuable in obstinate Catarrhal Affections of the Throat. They are especially beneficial to Catarrhal Diseases of the Air Passages. I frequently found them of great service in the cases of singers and public speakers." Acknowledged by the Medical Profession the best remedy for Throat Irritation, Coughs, Bronchitis, and Asthma. Of all Chemists, 1s. 1½d., or 15 stamps, from 10, Dver's-buildings, Holborn, E.C.

THE ROTHSCHILDS AND THE RUSSIAN LOAN.

GERMAN IRRITATION, AND THE REASON WHY.

The Vienna Bourse remains anxious about the supposed movements of large masses of Russian troops, as once more reported by the Berlin newspapers. "If financiers," says the *Times* correspondent in that capital, "would only consult the thermometer, they would recollect that this is not the season for moving masses of soldiers. Moreover, they might satisfy themselves by a reference to the Russian press that the official world in St. Petersburg has since the railway accident at Borki been highly excited and nervous with regard to the generally bad condition of Russian railways, which that accident brought to light. The question has in fact been seriously mooted as to how far the railways could bear the strain of an extensive mobilization; and until that point has been cleared up the intentions of Russia must and will remain peaceful."

The assertions of the *Kreuz Zeitung* and the Berlin *Post* that the reorganization of the Russian army corps involved a movement of troops to the west are officially declared in St. Petersburg to be completely unfounded. According to the latest army list, the headquarters of all the divisions mentioned in the recent Imperial order are stationed in localities corresponding to the *rayons* of their respective army corps, with one or two exceptions, and the movements in question, it is pointed out, involve the recall of two infantry divisions and one cavalry division from the west to the east, and the reduction of the Caucasian army by one infantry division.

The Berlin Money Market, however (to quote again from the Vienna correspondent of the *Times*), is out of humour with Russia for borrowing money in Paris, and the German semi-official press will of course make the most of the fact that the Rothschilds feared to take up the Russian loan because they could not obtain assurances that the money was required for peaceful objects. The Rothschilds, having the heavy Hungarian conversion scheme on hand, were naturally anxious to ascertain whether the lending of money to Russia would not spoil their operations at Buda-Pesth; but it does not follow that because the Russian Government declined to pledge itself as to the manner of spending its borrowed money it must have resolved to spend it in a way that may immediately disturb the peace. Much of the irritation of the German press takes its rise in annoyance that Russia should have emancipated herself from Berlin financiers. But it is much doubted in Vienna whether anything that may be published in Germany to damage Russian credit will prevent the loan from being covered by the French public, whenever it may be placed on the Paris Bourse.

THE APPOINTMENT OF COLONIAL GOVERNORS.

VICTORIA AS OPPOSED TO QUEENSLAND.

A telegram from Melbourne says:—In the Legislative Assembly yesterday (Friday) a discussion arose on the subject of the abstract right of the colonies to have a voice in the nomination of colonial Governors. The Hon. Duncan Gillies, the Premier, without discussing the merits of the Queensland protest, pointed out that under the terms of the Constitution the Queen alone could appoint Governors by the advice of her Ministers, who were responsible to the Imperial Parliament. He dwelt upon the inconvenience which would be likely to arise if the Imperial Ministers declined to endorse the colonial selection for the post. A deadlock would, in that case, ensue, and he was confident that the less a colony insisted upon the power to appoint or nominate its Governor the better. Victoria, added Mr. Gillies, had no such desire, and was perfectly satisfied that the appointments made would be such as the colony could approve. Other members spoke in a similar vein. The Premier's remarks were received with much cheering, the House evidently concurring in the views which he expressed.

MR. MUNDELLA AND THE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

A meeting was held yesterday at the Memorial-hall, Farringdon-street, under the presidency of Mr. E. N. Buxton, to advocate, with regard to the forthcoming School Board election, the provision of "sufficient school accommodation, efficiency, and unsectarian education." Mr. Mundella, M.P., the Rev. J. G. Rogers, the Hon. Lyulph Stanley, Mr. Carvell Williams, and others were preent on the platform. Mr. Mundella moved, "That in view of the present position of educational matters, this meeting regards the forthcoming election for the London School Board as one of great importance, and urges all who are in favour of a progressive policy to spare no efforts in their various localities to return candidates pledged to maintain the efficiency of the Board schools, to secure the efficiency of the supply of school places, and to uphold the principle of unsectarian teaching." The right hon. gentleman said they were there that day to keep up a sufficient educational provision for the children of the metropolis. They also insisted that all education should be entirely unsectarian. Their opponents called that "godless." He, for his own part, felt that the discussion of this matter should be carried out simply upon grounds of principle, and not of personality; but he could not help saying that false issues with regard to this matter of unsectarian education were being pushed to the front in all sorts of directions connected with the Church. The present Board boasted that they had effected a saving of £250,000. The answer to that boast was this—let them put their figures and their estimates in the hands of a firm of City accountants of the highest class, and let them make their statement; and then let the present Board's opponents appoint one member to make his counter statement, and the opponents bring out the balance. He thought they might dare abide the result, and if they were in the wrong he thought they might dare not only to endure the obloquy, but to pay the expenses. The right hon. gentleman went on to warn his hearers against the attacks being made upon the party opposing the present Board by ministers of the Established Church who, he was afraid, were endeavouring to get a preponderating influence at the next election. He denied that religious education would suffer through the proposed alterations in the curriculum, and maintained that the true worship of God would be heightened by a system of scripture teaching, which should be wholly unsectarian. Mr. George Howell, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mrs. Westlake and the Hon. Lyulph Stanley, who thought that the last election ought to be a warning to the people of London as to how they voted. The resolution was then carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks to Mr. E. N. Buxton brought the proceedings to a close.

BANKRUPTCY OF THE LATE LORD MAYOR'S COACHMAN.

At the London Bankruptcy Court yesterday, Mr. Registrar Brouham granted an immediate order of discharge to George Heath, the late Lord Mayor's coachman. From the report of the official receiver it appears that he attributes his failure to losses incurred by him at the Midland Hotel, Woodlesford, near Leeds, in connection with which all his debts had been incurred. No offence was alleged. The debts were returned at £402 12s. 9d., and no assets.

FOURTH EDITION.

TO-DAY'S TITTLE TATTLE.

The Prince *s'amuse*. "To the disappointment of the hosts, the Prince of Wales was, at the last moment, prevented from attending, but he sent instead a cordial letter of regret at the unavoidable circumstance that kept him away, and notified that he would take the earliest possible opportunity of visiting the Lyric Club." Extract from report in morning paper.

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No wonder, as our vivacious correspondent on page 5 says, there was disappointment at the Lyric. I suppose the "unavoidable circumstance" is explained in another "extract from report in morning paper," which runs as follows:—

AVENUE THEATRE.—The Prince of Wales and party honoured the Avenue Theatre with their presence last evening to witness the new comic opera, "Nadgy."

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All's well that ends well; but have we yet come to the end of the "painful scene in court" yesterday? Every one admits that Mr. Harrington's conduct was irregular; but what is to happen if Sir James Hannen is equally irritated every time that Irish fire comes into conflict with English phlegm?

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Sir James Hannen and Mr. Parnell, we have been told, lunch on vegetarian principles. My readers will be interested to learn that Sir Charles Russell's mid-day meal usually consists chiefly of oysters. The repast is partaken of in Sir Charles's chambers in New-court, whither Prosser's, in Chancery-lane, send some of their choicest bivalves. Oysters are the ex-Attorney-General's ruling passion in epicurean matters, and he generally fortifies himself with these succulent morsels for a political speech.

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Mr. Mark Oldroyd, the new member for Dewsbury, is one of the leading manufacturers in the place, upwards of one thousand hands being employed in his mills. He has been for a number of years a member of the town council, which this year elected him the mayor of the borough, and he is also a borough magistrate. He is, we believe, a good speaker, and has for a number of years been one of the Radical leaders of a thoroughly Radical town.

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Mr. B. F. C. Costelloe will, I understand, accept the invitation of the Holborn Liberal Association to contest the seat made vacant by Colonel Duncan's death. Mr. Costelloe is not unknown to the district, for he had already been selected to stand for the County Council. Mr. Costelloe, who is an old Balliol man, is a fluent and cogent speaker, and in addition to political propagandism has recently come to the front, at the bar and elsewhere, as an advocate of all that concerns the welfare of women.

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Just as if Miss Nellie Farren and Mr. Fred Leslie could possibly appear in any part of the globe without making a hit, and a hard hit too! New York is delighted with the famous pair, and, to judge by the cablegrams, Miss Lind and Miss Sylvia Grey have danced themselves into the hearts of the Americans. Mr. Edwardes's mind will now be at ease, for Mr. Dixey sent no claque: not he.

***

Mr. Wilson, the new Warden of Keble, has scored a great success at Radley, which had before been at a very low ebb. New dormitories, a laboratory, a gymnasium, a racquet court, and other buildings, have sprung up around the pretty old country house and park of Sir George Bowyer, some six miles from Oxford, and the college now takes its place high among the lesser public schools.

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Mr. Wilson has great strength of will and almost indomitable energy. He is distinctly a member of the High Church party. His knowledge and attention to matters of ritual are precise and almost severe. He is well known as a preacher in London and Oxford churches, and is possessed of considerable powers of language and forcible expression. He was for a time an assistant master at Marlborough under the present Dean of Westminster.

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"A Prisoner for Liberty" writes:—"If prison life has its hardships it has its occasional humourous incidents as well. On my first visit to the prison chapel, the first hymn that was given out was one beginning—

This is the house of prayer
Where we, Thy servants, meet;
And Thou, O Lord, art here,
Thy *chosen band* to greet.

We were all there—thieves, burglars, two murderers, and scoundrels of all descriptions. You can imagine the effect of the 'chosen band' phrase!"

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"Prince Bismarck, D.D.!" The University of Giessen has just conferred the title of Doctor of Divinity, printed on parchment and daintily wrapped in red silk plush, set in a gilt frame, on the Chancellor. A small surprise is included in the greater one by the fact that the diploma was handed to the Chancellor on November 10, the birthday of Luther.

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The dedication is touching, and worth translation. Here is a specimen of it:—

To the great unique man who has dedicated, and is still dedicating, his life to the services of three Emperors in unrivalled devotion, who never wearies, never loses courage, and fears no one but God, to whose providence in the destiny of nations he trusts.

And here is a passage at which some of the Roman Catholics, not unnaturally, take exception:—

To the faithful first counsellor of the Evangelic Kings of Prussia, the most august pillars of the Evangelic cause all over the world, who takes care that the Evangelic Church is ruled according to its idiosyncrasies, and not according to a strange and hurtful pattern.

THE GALE CONTINUES.—TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

GALLANT RESCUE OF A SHIPWRECKED CREW.

A severe gale prevailed on the British coasts yesterday. Several wrecks were reported, and in some inland towns in the north of England and Scotland considerable damage has been done. Three men have lost their lives on the coast of Fifeshire, and two or three fatal accidents have occurred.

Our Chester correspondent telegraphs this morning:—The gale continues at Holyhead, and the coastguard have been out all night. The Norwegian barque *Hypathia*, from Nova Scotia to Liverpool, was driven on to the rocks in Anglesea. The life-saving apparatus was taken to the spot and it was then found that she was fast on, about one hundred and twenty yards distant from the cliffs. The first gun sent the line right across the ship, and the crew, thirteen in number, were safely hauled ashore, but in a terribly exhausted condition. The coastguard then returned to Holyhead, having been absent eleven hours because thirty miles had to be traversed to and from the vessel. Many vessels are waiting at Holyhead unable to venture outside.

The gale is still blowing furiously in Dublin. Two houses in the city which had been condemned have been blown down, but no one was injured. Last night as Dr. Kenny, M.P., and his wife were driving through the city the cab overturned, but the occupants escaped uninjured. The storm has played great havoc at the new racecourse at Leopaldstown, a portion of the iron roofing of the members' dining-room, several tons in weight, has been carried away, and strong work has been torn away and swept across the course. The judge's box, which weighed a ton, was lifted by the wind across the course and broken

OUR LATEST PROTECTORATE IN THE PACIFIC.

WHAT THE NATIVE CHIEFS EXPECTED.

The latest New Zealand mails bring particulars of the Hervey or Cook's group of islands, over which a British Protectorate was proclaimed on September 20 last, by her Majesty's Consul at Raratonga, acting under instructions from the Colonial Office. In May last a petition was forwarded to the Foreign Office from Queen Makea and most of the influential chiefs of Raratonga, Atiu, and Aitutaki, praying that this might be done, as they dreaded annexation by some foreign Power. The prompt action of the Imperial Government seems to have given general satisfaction in New Zealand, and the announcement of the Protectorate was also received with great enthusiasm in the islands. The ceremony was a simple one, consisting of the publication of a proclamation, and the presentation of a British flag to the three great chiefs, who were authorized to hoist the flags should they be in any way molested or interfered with by foreign ships of war. Some disappointment was evinced by the chiefs at the unceremonious manner in which the important news was conveyed to them, for it was expected that at least a man-of-war would have been present on the occasion.

The islands include the following:—Mangaia (population 2,000), 30 miles in circumference; Raratonga (2,000), 24 miles; Aitutaki (1,800), 18 miles; Aitu (900), 8 miles; Mitiero (300), 10 miles; Mauki (600), 6 miles; and Manauai, or Hervey (200), consisting of three islets within one large reef. Raratonga is the only island of the group which has a barbour, and from this fact, combined with its great productiveness and central position, it has been made the collecting and distributing centre for the trade of the islets. It appears that the people of this little group are far advanced in the race of civilization, and that they all have kindred institutions of an unusual type for aboriginals. The form of government is native monarchy, or rather monarchies, and in Raratonga they have their parliament, chief justice, law courts, and all the institutions and paraphernalia of settled life. In fact, thay have in some directions gone very far ahead indeed, for they have not hitherto permitted the permanent settlement of Europeans on the islands, owing to a dread of their "earth-swallowing" powers, and the importation of foreign labour has also been forbidden. The trade is valued at about £60,000 per annum, the imports at about £20,000, chiefly consisting of clothing and drapery goods, bread stuffs, grocery, and hardware. The exports are for the most part cotton, coffee, and fruits. The islands have been distinguished as the centre of the operations of one of the noblest of missionary leaders, John Williams, and they have the advantage, in respect of religious peace, of not being distracted by rival denominational beliefs, having been retained as a kind of preserve by the London Missionary Society.

SUICIDE OF M. GOLDSCHMIDT'S DAUGHTER.

(EXCHANGE TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Saturday.—Mdme. de Villeroy, daughter of M. Goldschmidt, the well-known banker, and a niece of Baron Hirsch, has committed suicide by drowning herself. The cause of the suicide is unknown.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

THE ELECTIONS AT THE CAPE.

CAPE TOWN, Nov. 16.—The results of two-thirds of the total number of elections to the new House of Assembly are now known, and show that the party in power has gained several Opposition seats and has lost nothing.

The revenue of Cape Colony for October shows an increase of £40,000 as compared with the same month last year.

FIRE ON A COTTON STEAMER.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—A despatch from Charleston announces that a fire has broken out on board the steamship *Sandringham*, which is lying at Charleston wharf, laden with cotton. It is feared that the loss will be heavy.

EXCITING SCENE AT A FIRE IN HARROW ROAD.

An alarming fire occurred at 499 and 499A, Harrow-road, about half-past one this morning. The premises consist of two four-story buildings; one was occupied by Miss Jones, confectioner, and the other by a draper and milliner. The fire was first discovered by a police-constable, who gave the alarm. An exciting scene was witnessed when the inmates appeared at the upper windows. While the flames were bursting forth from beneath the terrified people crawled along the narrow coping surmounting the fascia, and so escaped into the adjoining house. Two steamers and three manuals speedily attended, but, despite strenuous efforts, the buildings were completely gutted.

HEAVY FAILURE OF STOCKBROKERS.

At the London Court of Bankruptcy to-day the accounts were issued from the Official Receiver's Department under the failure of Messrs. Herapath and Delmar, late of Draper's-gardens, City, stock and sharebrokers. Herapath returns the total liabilities at £134,405, of which £66,208 are unsecured, and £57,718 fully secured, with assets estimated at £10,312. The failure of the firm is attributed by Herapath to losses by speculations on the Stock Exchange, which, he alleges, were entered into by Dalmar to an extent of which he had no knowledge.

A YANKEE JOKE.

A SHOWMAN'S OFFER TO LORD SACKVILLE.

The New York *Sun* of November 2 contains the following amusing "copy":—

A CHANCE FOR LORD SACKVILLE.

THE UBIQUITOUS AMERICAN SHOWMAN IS AFTER HIM, WITH AN OFFER OF BIG MONEY.

Lord Sackville-West cannot escape the American showman any more than he could the American politician. His mail has been huge since the recent incident, but probably nothing will equal in uniqueness and grim humour the letter that reached him yesterday. It came from this city, and it was written by John B. Doris, the ex-circus manager, who has just opened a dime museum on Eighth-avenue. Doris thus addresses him:—

To the Right Honourable Lionel Sackville-West, K.C.B., British Minister, Washington, D.C.—My Lord,—Having read the newspapers carefully in all things appertaining to your now famous letter to Mr. Murchison, and being deeply interested in your lordship's movements, I respectfully address you these lines, hoping they will receive your lordship's attention. In view of the fact that you are now, without exception, the most prominent man in American politics, and that your lordship will soon be recalled to your home duties, I beg, in my capacity as manager of the greatest museum in the world, respectfully to make your lordship the following offer, so that you may be afforded an opportunity to properly place yourself before the American public previous to your departure. Free speech is my motto. I will pay your lordship the sum of 2,000 dols. per week for holding two levees of two hours' duration for one week—two if you prefer them—said levees to be held daily in my museum. I will pay for your lordship and suite while here. An immediate reply will greatly oblige your lordship's most obedient servant, JOHN B. DORIS, Manager. Doris's Big Museum, New York City.

Doris was at his museum last night. He is the husband of Ella Stokes, the rider, a brother-in-law of wealthy John Stetson, and a big man with Western ways and a honest countenance. He said to a *Sun* reporter:—"I mean business. I'll give his lordship all I said I would if he'll let me book him; and it will pay me at that. He hasn't had a chance to right himself yet. Here's an opportunity, and a profitable one, too. I haven't heard from him yet. Perhaps he'll telegraph me. If he does I'll bill him like a circus."

The *Evening Sun* of the same date commented thus on the above:—"It shall never be said of America that she refuses asylum to civilized men, no matter how grievously they may have offended her sense of propriety. Lord Sackville has lost his job at the Capitol, it is true. But here is a dime museum whose proprietor offers the deposed diplomat 2,000 dollars a week if he will hold a levee there of two hours' duration each day. This would keep the wolf from the door until Lord Sackville could receive funds from home. The offer is a princely one, and nobody but a New York dime museum manager could afford to make it."

MR. BRIGHT SOMEWHAT BETTER.

Mr. Bright made a little progress yesterday towards recovery from the attack of congestion of the lungs. He is taking nourishment fairly, and his general strength seems to be maintained satisfactorily, but he is still weak. Mr. William Bright, M.P., has returned to London. Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Currie, and Mr. P. Bright are still at One Ash. At ten o'clock last night Dr. Hayle, who had just left Mr. Bright, reported that his patient was better. The congestion had decreased, and, if anything, he was a little stronger. He had passed a comfortable day. Yesterday was Mr. Bright's seventy-seventh birthday, and many congratulations and good wishes for his health reached him and the members of his family. Inquirers at the house to-day were informed that the right hon. gentleman had passed a good night and was still improving.

A BUILDER'S FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

The accounts, accompanied by the official receiver's observations, were issued at the London Court of Bankruptcy to-day, under the extensive failure of Franklin Sydney King, of Billiter-square-buildings, and Mark-lane, also of Whitechapel and Croydon, builder and contractor. Liabilities £96,069, of which £21,115 are unsecured, and £68,052 fully secured, with assets returned at the same amount as the liabilities. The debtor has expressed his intention of submitting a scheme of arrangement to his creditors.

Prince George of Wales arrived at Charing-cross this morning from Erindisi, viâ Paris, and drove at once to Marlborough House.

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain have left Washington for a week's trip. They will sail for Europe on the 26th inst.

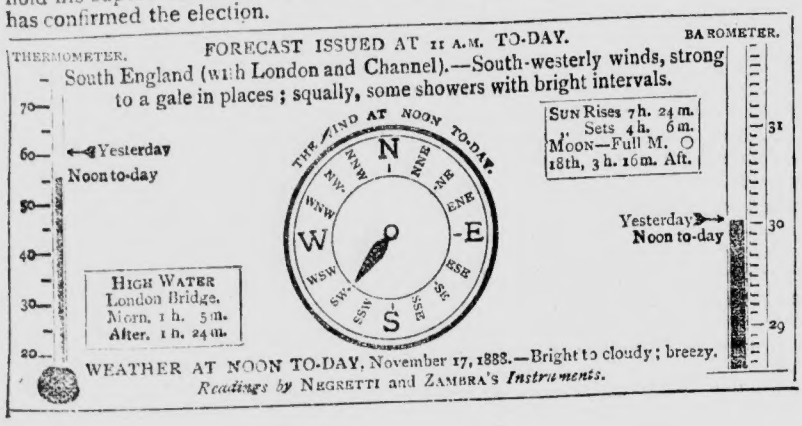
There will, it is thought, be some delay in issuing the new writ for Waterford. The body of Mr. Pyne has not been found, and till it is found legal proof of death will not be complete.

Early this morning the cotton mill of Messrs. Brotherton and Co., Preston was completely destroyed by fire. The damage amounts to £10,000, which is covered by insurance.

The man who yesterday shot himself in Hyde Park has been identified as Richard Brown, a constable of the E Division, and attached to the Hunter-street police-station.

In view of the competition of to-day the sum of £1,000 which was obtained yesterday for *Baily's Monthly Magazine of Sports and Pastimes* may be regarded as a fair price. The auctioneer dwelt with the usual adroitness of the profession on the possibilities of the magazine under energetic management.

The Royal Academy of Munich have elected Mr. Whistler an honorary member of their body, "as a sign of the honour and high esteem in which they hold his superb work in the dominion of art," and Prince Luitpold of Bavaria has confirmed the election.



A QUIET EVENING.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT. BY A SPECTATOR.

The interest last night attached to the terms of Mr. Gladstone's motion in opposition to the Landlord Subsidy Bill. He will move "a resolution declaring that, in lieu of proceeding to vote a sum of £5,000,000 for extending Lord Ashbourne's Act, it is expedient to extend the provisions of the Land Law (Ireland) Act for dealing with the arrears of rent after the example of the Scotch Crofters Act." The only point of interest in question-time was the letter which Sir J. Gorst had to read (for Baron De Worms), setting forth how it is that the Government of Queensland decline to have Mr. Blake to rule over them at any price. After three categorical reasons, No. 4 gave the Opposition its chance: "4. That his previous experience is, in their opinion, a disqualification for the office of Governor of Queensland." The chance was not let slip. Loud cheers from the whole Opposition, loudest from the Irish benches, emphasized the judgment of the colony on coercion. But Mr. Dillon was not satisfied. "Will the right hon. gentleman say whether the previous experience alluded to is that of a resident magistrate?" Sir John Gorst "pleaded ignorance." "The hon. member is as well able to judge of that as myself." "Aye, and better," came from Mr. Harrington, fresh from his brush with authority at the Probate Court.

The House was in Committee of Supply all the evening, and "the Civil Service Estimates, Class IV. (Education, Science, and Art)," is an entry on the Orders of the day which neither raises, nor did it in this case satisfy, any sensational expectations. Such amusement as was to be gained was in seeing Mr. Bartley, Mr. Jesse Collings, and other persons posing as Mæcenas. And that is a diversion which soon palls.

Sir H. Roscoe recommended the addition of commercial education to the curriculum of South Kensington, and Sir R. Temple said the London School Board were trying to make it part of theirs. But we know the relative importance of economy and efficiency in Sir R. Temple's mind, for he has told us himself. Mr. Mundella pleaded for loans to the local art museums. Sir W. Hart-Dyke made many promises to evening students. Mr. Molloy and Mr. Labouchere are to be congratulated on pestering unwilling Mr. Smith into promising (in spite of bloated estimates of £14,000 a year expenses) that he would try to open the British Museum in the evening, "if it could be done with safety," and even extending the promise to the Natural History Museum. Will it come to anything? It is the third annual promise of the kind. Dr. Tanner made a bold attempt to add Sundays to the list, but failed; and the National Gallery vote was agreed to without any parley as to making the hours later, which some of us regretted. The Report of Supply was agreed to.

APPLICATION TO ARREST MR. GENT-DAVIS, M.P.

Application was made to Mr. Justice North in the Chancery Division yesterday, in the action of *re* Gent (deceased) Gent *v.* Gent-Davis for leave to issue a writ of attachment against Mr. Gent-Davis, M.P., for non-compliance with an order of the court, dated July 12 last, to pay a sum of £3,778 into court. Mr. Gent-Davis, as trustee of the testator, Mr. Gent, carried on a distillery left by the latter, and in July an order for payment into court of the above amount was made against him. This order had not been obeyed. On behalf of Mr. Gent-Davis it was contended that at present he had not the means to enable him to comply with the order, and it was further argued that he was privileged from arrest on the ground of his being a member of Parliament. His lordship said he would take time to consider the application.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Twelve o'clock.

There is no particular change to report in the condition of the Money Market. Dealers in bills do not work at all freely, owing to the uncertain outlook, but it is found impossible to raise the discount rate to any appreciable extent while the amount of money seeking employment in the open market is so large. There seems to be little doubt that the Bank of England is at last taking steps to reduce the supply of floating credits in the market, and if this policy is continued its effect will soon be apparent in a decided upward movement in quotations. The situation is anything but reassuring. The Argentine Republic, although it has received, according to estimate, about two millions sterling during the past week from Berlin, New York, and London, has still the power to take further large sums if it is so disposed, and not only is our market threatened with further withdrawals for South America, but there is also the possibility of shipments from the Bank of England for Germany. As the value of money in Berlin is now higher than it is here the exchange is very adverse to this country, and the Bank of Germany will no doubt want to recoup itself for the gold sent to the River Plate. Short money is to-day worth 1½, while the discount rate for three months' bank paper is 3⅛ per cent.

As to-day the Stock Exchange is closed, in consequence of cleaning and repairs, there are no changes to report in prices of public securities.

An amended order relating to investment of trust funds and of moneys under the control of the court has been issued from the Lord Chancellor's office in place of the one withdrawn on the 24th of October. The principal alterations in the new order as compared with the old one are as follows:—Firstly, the only colonial stocks permitted are those guaranteed by the Imperial Government. Secondly, the Indian railway clause has been widely extended. Thirdly, in the previous order permission of the court was required previous to investments in Local Loans stock of 1887 and in the last five securities named in the new order, but now the permission of the court is not required at all in these cases.

The Liverpool Commercial Banking Company (Limited) has been taken over by the Bank of Liverpool. The Commercial is a small concern, having less than a million of deposits and a paid-up capital of £350,000, while the Bank of Liverpool has about £6,000,000 of deposits, a paid-up capital of £750,000 and a reserve and "callable" capital of £5,250,000.

At a meeting of the court of directors of the East and West India Dock Company, held yesterday, Mr. Rodolph Alexander Hankey was elected chairman and Mr. Alexander Lawrie deputy chairman.

The directors of the English Bank of Rio de Janeiro have declared a dividend on account of 3 per cent. (6*s.* per share), tax free, payable on the 1st of December.

At the Coal Market yesterday the price of sea-borne coals was reduced 1*s.* per ton.

Mr. John Coles, of the firm of Messrs. Whiteheads and Coles, 39, Throgmorton-street, E.C., has been elected a director of the Debenture Corporation (Limited).

Messrs. Thomas Wheeler and Co., bankers, High Wycombe (London agents London and Westminster Bank, Limited) are opening branches at Beaconsfield, Princes Risborough, and Amersham.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened steady with a moderate demand. Probable sales about 8,000 bales. Prices on the spot are unchanged. Futures are steady, at one point advance.

THE SCANDALOUS MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.

WELCOME HOME OF THE RELEASED MEN.

Peter Murphy and Michael Brannagan, the two men just released from penal servitude, under circumstances now well known to the public, arrived at Alnwick by rail at half-past seven yesterday morning, and had an enthusiastic reception accorded them by their old friends and acquaintances, and indeed by the bulk of the people of the quaint old ducal town of Northumberland. In the course of the forenoon of Thursday the two men who have confessed that they were the authors of the crime for which Murphy and Brannagan had been made to innocently suffer were arrested in the public streets at Alnwick by Sergeant Wealleans, of the Northumberland police. About the same time it became known that Mr. Charles Percy, solicitor, Alnwick, had received a telegram from the governor of the convict prison at Portsmouth stating that Murphy had left for Alnwick that morning. Similar information was received as to Brannagan having left Dartmoor, and in the evening, and until the last train from the south had arrived, the Alnwick railway station and the thoroughfares outside were thronged by expectant crowds. Early yesterday morning the crowds reassembled at the railway station, and had the satisfaction of seeing the liberated men. Murphy had arrived at Newcastle Central Station on Thursday night, shortly after nine. Brannagan, having a much longer journey to make, did not arrive at Newcastle until an early hour yesterday morning. Shortly before six o'clock he was joined by Murphy, and the two proceeded to Alnwick together, where, as has already been stated, they arrived shortly after half-past seven o'clock. They had both been provided with good ordinary dark suits of clothes, and appeared to be in good health. The men's relatives in Alnwick—to which place a branch runs from the main line between Newcastle and Edinburgh, having its junction at Bilton, about three miles away from Alnwick—proceeded by train to the junction station shortly before seven o'clock yesterday morning. The party consisted of Brannagan's two daughters, his sister, and two sisters-in-law. Brannagan was married to a sister of Murphy, so that the party included family connections of both men. The meeting was of an affecting character. The party soon afterwards arrived at Alnwick. At the station the released men were seized by old friends and neighbours and carried shoulder high. A procession of an impromptu kind was formed, headed by the Salvation Army band playing "Home, sweet home." The processionists and crowd moved through the old gate-tower of Bondgate, cheering and waving handkerchiefs all the way. In Clayport, another venerable thoroughfare, Mr. Charles Percy, the solicitor through whose voluntary action the liberation of Brannagan and Murphy has been mainly brought about, appeared upon the scene, and warmly shook hands with each of the two men. They then proceeded to the house of Murphy's sister, in Union-court, where they spent the greater part of the day. Last night Brannagan said he really had nothing to say as to his experiences in prison. He did not desire to remember them, and declined to enter into any particulars about them. Both men expressed their deep gratitude to the people of Alnwick for the kindly reception accorded them. In the course of the afternoon the two men arrested on Thursday, George Egdell, forty-six, and Charles Richardson, forty-two, were brought before Colonel Grey, of Denwick, and were formally charged with breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Matthew Hughes George Buckle and unlawfully and feloniously shooting with a certain gun loaded with powder and leaden shot at Matthew H. G. Buckle and Georgina Matilda Buckle, with intent to commit murder, at the parish of Edlingham, on the 7th of February, 1879, and remanded.

SIR J. POPE HENNESSY'S ACTION AGAINST THE "TIMES."

In the Queen's Bench yesterday the action for libel brought by Sir John Pope Hennessy, Governor of Mauritius, against the *Times*, for charging him with editing the report of speeches of members of the Legislative Council before sending them home to the Colonial Office, was settled by agreement. Sir H. James stated that it had been found that the imputations in reference to the conduct of the plaintiff were incorrect, and therefore the *Times* offered an apology and withdrew all imputations, consenting to a verdict for the plaintiff for 40*s.* damages, with costs.

A HUNTSMAN MULCTED IN HEAVY DAMAGES.

In the Queen's Bench yesterday, Mr. Harris, a Buckinghamshire farmer, sued Lieutenant Balfour of the Scots Guards to recover damages for assault. Defendant alleged that the assault was committed in self-defence, and in defence of a friend. It appeared that the defendant with a brother officer followed the hunt over land occupied by plaintiff's father. Plaintiff and his father tried to prevent them returning over the land when defendant struck plaintiff with the butt end of his whip, the blow being so serious that the plaintiff was detained several weeks in hospital. At the conclusion of plaintiff's case an agreement was arrived at by which the defendant consented to a verdict of £450.

FAILURE OF A LATE NEWSPAPER PROPRIETOR.

An application was made to Mr. Registrar Brougham to confirm a scheme for the arrangement of the affairs of George Hollings, a barrister, and formerly proprietor of *Agriculture*. The debts are returned at £1,636, and assets nil, and the scheme provides for the payments of the debts in full by instalments of £50 down and quarterly instalments of £12 10*s.* The scheme, after some discussion, was ordered to be confirmed.

THE POST OFFICE ROBBERIES.

Francis Robarti, described as a "tipster," was again brought up at Marlborough-street police-court yesterday, charged with being in the unlawful possession of 120 fivepenny postage stamps, which were believed to form part of the proceeds of a robbery of £268 worth of stamps at the Mitre-square post-office some weeks ago. Failing direct evidence as to complicity in the robbery at Aldgate, and as to how the prisoner obtained the stamps, the Post Office authorities asked the magistrate to deal with the case as one of unlawful possession. The prisoner was sentenced to two months' imprisonment with hard labour.

DAMAGES AGAINST THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY.

In the Queen's Bench yesterday, a cabdriver named Smith sued the Earl of Shrewsbury to recover damages for personal injury sustained, as he alleged, through one of the defendant's cabs being negligently driven. The defence was that the defendant's horse bolted, and was beyond control. The jury found for the plaintiff, damages £250.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15*s.* per month (Second-hand, 10*s.* 6*d.* per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE BOARD OF WORKS SCANDALS.

ALDERMAN SAUNDERS DECIDES TO RESIGN.

We are enabled (says the *City Press*) to state authoritatively that Mr. Alderman Saunders, after full consideration of the position in which he is placed at the present moment, has decided definitely to resign his trust. Negotiations with the Court of Aldermen and his constituents in Coleman-street Ward have already been commenced, so that the actual announcement of his resignation is likely to be made within the course of the next few days.

At the usual weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works yesterday the solicitor presented the interim Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the working of the Board. Mr. Cooke, in moving that the Report be referred to the Works and General Purposes Committee for consideration and report, said that the more the action of the Board was inquired into the more the public would be satisfied that the Board had done their work very well, and that the representations of the Commissioners were honest and just. There had been a great many charges of an anonymous character made against the members of this Board, and, except in the case of two members, those charges had not been substantiated.

Mr. Mark H. Judge moved as an amendment that a special meeting of the Board be held on Wednesday next to consider whether the Board should request the Commission to present to Parliament the minutes of the evidence, with a view to the interim Report being made more intelligible, and to consider what should be done with reference to the various sites obtained from the Board by corruption, and with reference to the conduct of Mr. Robertson, Mr. Goddard, and other officers, and also the present and past members of the Board whose conduct had been called in question. Mr. Judge expressed his astonishment that maladministration and neglect of duty should be accepted as satisfactory by the Board. The amendment did not find a seconder, and after a long discussion the motion was agreed to.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE WEATHER PLANT.

Mr. C. W. Radeke writes to the *Times* from Clapham-common concerning Professor Nowack's famous weather plant. Referring to the recent statement made by the secretary of the Royal Botanic Society, Mr. Radeke says:—It is obvious that the society is labouring under an entire misapprehension as to what really forms the gist and nature of Professor Nowack's discovery, and also that the weather plants in the society's gardens are not cultivated in the manner needful for his purpose. Mr. Nowack does not in the least dispute the secretary's allegation—"that the behaviour of the weather-plant in the society's (or any other) gardens varied at one and the same time, according to the special conditions under which they are growing;" quite the contrary, he is fully aware of it, and admits that weather-plants grown under ordinary conditions are utterly useless for forecasting the weather. But Professor Nowack contends, on the other hand:—

1. That the weather-plant is an electro-magnetic plant.
2. That if it is placed, corresponding with a magnetic compass, with its north branches towards north, in an apparatus of his own special—but after all very simple—construction, and is therein grown and cultivated in the special and simple manner described by him, it will then, and only then, cease to be susceptible to influences of its immediate habitat.
3. That its sensitiveness to atmospheric and electric influences can then, and under such conditions alone, be thoroughly controlled, and may then be turned to practical account for forecasting the local weather with truly marvellous precision, forty-eight hours beforehand, and likewise earthquakes, or subterraneous disturbances, both at a distance and locally, with respectively three to eight days' previous notice.

Any number of weather-plants, placed under such conditions, will behave alike. Such is Professor Nowack's experience, which extends now over more than four years, is based upon more than 34,000 different observations with hundreds of plants, and is, all in all, a matter of the deepest scientific study. In Austria the merits of the plant have been fully recognized by a great many who had originally approached the matter with the utmost disbelief and ridicule. The observatory of the Austrian Tourists' Club, on the Sonnwendstein, at an altitude of 1,511 metres, in the Styrian Alps, which supplies the various branches of the club with weather forecasts during the season, has now for already over a year discarded both aneroid and ordinary barometers for that purpose, and depends for its forecasts upon the weather-plant alone.

IN AID OF THE RUSSIAN SINGERS.—Mr. W. R. S. Ralston, vice-president of the Folk Lore Society, and corresponding member of the (Russian) Imperial Academy of Sciences, wishing to assist the Russian singers who have been abandoned in England by the men who brought them from Russia, invites his friends and all friends of justice to St. James's Hall on Wednesday, Nov. 21. On that day, from 3 to 5 P.M., Mr. Ralston will tell Russian stories, and those who remain of the Russian singers will sing Russian songs.

ATTEMPT TO WRECK A TRAIN.—Yesterday a determined attempt was made to wreck a train on the London and North Western Railway at Moseley Village, near Wolverhampton. A twelve-foot iron rail was placed right across the line, and seriously endangered a passenger train travelling from Birmingham. Happily the obstruction was carried along until it was clear of the metals. The attempt is believed to be the work of a gang of men who have lately been committing serious outrages in connection with the working machinery at the collieries in the district, but none of whom has yet been arrested.

RELICS OF A PRE-HOMERIC AGE.—At Mycenæ, where the Archæological Society have now suspended operations for the winter, the results of the excavations during the past season have been highly satisfactory. Fifty pre-historic tombs have been opened in the vicinity of the ancient city, and a large number of valuable relics of a pre-Homeric age have been discovered. Among them are stones with inscriptions, the so-called "island gems," copper vases, and a variety of other objects in ivory, gold, and glass. The whole collection will be taken to Athens, and deposited in the Museum there next week.

ROMAN REMAINS.—The removal of an accumulation of soil in a piece of garden ground on the East Bight, in connection with the building operations at Mr. Alfred Shuttleworth's mansion in Eastgate, Lincoln, has brought to light a very considerable and important fragment of the eastern wall of the Roman city. It consists of a large quadrangular block of solid masonry, with dressed facing, projecting inwards from the wall, and is supposed to be the basement of a quadrangular tower strenthening the wall, midway between the north-east angle and the east gateway. Although large portions of the Roman wall exist in other parts of the circuit, this is the only place in which any of the ashlar facing has been found remaining.

"CLEANING SILVER."—All difficulty in keeping silver, electro-plate, &c., untarnished and with a brilliant polish, may be obviated by using GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER. Sold everywhere, in boxes 1*s.*, 2*s.* 6*d.*, and 4*s.* 6*d.* FOUR Gold Medals awarded.

LONDON RAILWAY STATIONS.—II.

THE SOUTH EASTERN EXTENSIONS.

THE South Eastern Railway Company, although most favourably placed with respect to the number and situation of its London termini, is at the other end of the scale in regard to its accesses to the same. Railway experts from the Continent or America are amazed at the difficulties under which the traffic is worked, and marvel that the delays for which the company is sometimes censured are not enormously greater. Mr. Myles Fenton, the General Manager of the Company, has had a great deal of experience in working crowded lines in London and Lancashire. He organized the opening of the Metropolitan Railway, and was associated with that company for seventeen years. For some years he also worked the District, and altogether he has had a railway record of forty-three years. He knows, therefore, what he is talking about when he states that there is nowhere a piece of traffic which requires so much care, and is attended with so many difficulties, as the working of that part of the South Eastern's system which lies between London Bridge and Cannon-street and Charing-cross. A plan of the line at once shows the natural obstacles in the way of expeditious working. Trains from London Bridge to Cannon-street cannot get in without crossing the path of outgoing trains to Charing-cross, so that there is a constant crossing and recrossing, which all means delay. Every down train from Cannon-streeet crosses two up lines to get on to the down line. The space in the stations is so limited that empty as well as loaded trains must be immediately despatched, and in consequence of the shortness of the line at the south side of Cannon-street bridge, an empty from Charing-cross which is being sent down to Rotherhithe-road, where they are stacked, may completely block Cannon-street station. It often happens that there are trains standing at every signal for some distance down the road, a delay with one necessarily affecting all the others, both up and down.

THE EXTENT OF THE TRAFFIC.

Under these difficult conditions no fewer than 850 loaded trains are daily taken into and sent out of Cannon-street and Charing-cross stations. Continental expresses, seaside trains, the locals, and the others which make up this total have all to pass through the narrow neck outside Cannon-street. Other companies can shunt their local traffic—as the northern and other lines do, and the Brighton has completed its duties when London Bridge is reached, but the South Eastern must get over the river at two points with the bulk of its traffic. The distance is so small that the delays, which are inevitable under existing conditions, irritate the public, and the company gets a reputation for unpunctuality. "None the less," the general manager remarks, "up to London Bridge we can compare with any other company in the matter of punctuality." And even with respect to the parts beyond he maintains that they are not so bad as they are painted. In proof thereof he exhibited the official table of working for the morning prior to our visit. Between eight and eleven o'clock seventy-five trains arrived, and of these twenty were late, and the other fifty-five were up to time. Of the twenty two were five minutes late—which was the maximum delay—four were four minutes, and fourteen two minutes. Under the circumstances railway men will not regard this record as a bad one. It must be remembered that these up trains had not only to get in, but the down trains had simultaneously to be despatched, besides which expresses and others not required till a later hour in the day had to be sent down to Rotherhithe-road. The services are also affected by delays on the lines between Redhill and London, which are crowded with trains of the Brighton Company, frequently causing a dislocation of the South Eastern trains, especially during the most important hours of the day. Difficult, however, as it is under normal conditions, the working of the traffic becomes appalling when fog comes down. On the most favoured roads trains are impeded under such circumstances, but here, when the signals and trains are hid from view, there is an inevitable collapse of the ordinary services. The trains have to be hand-signalled in and out without any regard to the time-table.

HOW TO REMEDY THE EVIL.

The remedy for the evil is not hid from the directors and their staff, but it means money, and that to a very large amount—how much it would be rash to say. What they are doing is to proceed by degrees, and as a first step they have widened Charing-cross bridge, and have nearly completed the same operation at Cannon-street. They have, further, acquired the land for the purpose of broadening the viaduct between London Bridge and Charing-cross, which carries at present three lines; they have obtained land in order to extend London Bridge station, and have begun the work; they have also purchased some of the land for widening Charing-cross station. When the extensions are made at London Bridge instead of one road for the main line traffic there will be two, which is the minimum of other companies. The doubling of the bridge at Cannon-street will give ten instead of five lines into that station; and the Charing-cross bridge now furnishes six instead of three. This addition has been in practical use for some weeks, and already the extra facilities have proved advantageous, although its full value will not be realized until the whole scheme of extension has been completed.

THE WORK AT CHARING-CROSS.

The bridge, which has been widened on the western or Westminster side, consists of six river spans, varying between 152 ft. and 154 ft., and three shore spans on the Charing-cross side of about 100 ft. each. For carrying the three additional lines three main lattice girders of somewhat similar design to those of the old bridge have been employed for each of the six river spans. The easternmost girders, which rest on the piers and abutments of the old bridge, and support half a line of rails, have, for the sake of lightness, been made of steel; the inner girders, which support 1½ lines of rails, and the western girders, which support one line, are of wrought iron, and are supported on new cast iron cylinders and on the lengthened piers and abutments of the old bridge. Six of the piers are composed of cast iron cylinders, two in each pier. 10 ft. in diameter above the bed of the river, and increasing to 14 ft. beneath; the depths below the river varying between 27 ft. and 47 ft. The cylinders in every instance rest on the London clay. Their stability was tested by their being loaded when completed within 20 ft. of rail level, the outer ones with 580 tons, and the inside ones with 780 tons, under which weight they stood for ten days without subsidence. The other two piers are formed by the lengthening of the original towers of the Hungerford suspension bridge, structures in stone and brickwork 33 ft. thick, supported one on concrete and the other on pile foundations. The cross girders for the double line are of wrought iron, and for the single line of steel, and are suspended from the lower members of the main girders. In shore spans wrought iron plate girders under the rails have been used. The decking of the bridge is entirely of timber. The steel plates were made by the Bessemer Basin process, and the angles, tees, and bars by the Siemens-Martin process. Major-General Hutchinson has reported highly of the substantial and excellent character of the workmanship. The girders were tested with a load of heavy goods engines, three on each line of rails, and the deflections varied between ¾ and seven-eighths of an inch for the river spans, and between ½ and ¼ of an inch for the shore spans. The work has been carried out from the designs of Mr. Brady, the well-known engineer of the company.

A visit to the signal box at Charing-cross at by no means the busiest part of the day gave one an idea of the press of traffic caused by the previous narrow access to the station. Two signalmen are incessantly moving the hundred or so levers (all interlocked) in order to pass in and out the up and down trains, and the empties and engines which have to be shunted. The work proceeds, however, with remarkable (and necessary) order and quietness, and not a solitary engine whistle is heard all day long, a blessing of which the public are, perhaps, hardly conscious. The relief afforded by the three extra lines has been very considerable, but the full benefit will not be realized until, as we have already said, the line is widened all the way down to London Bridge. It will be several months yet before the doubling of Cannon-street bridge is effected, and it is impossible to say when the full scheme will be completed.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.]

BIOGRAPHY.

ARNOLD, A. S. "The Story of Thomas Carlyle." (Ward and Downey. 6s.) Pp. 371.

[A book with no reason for existence. In every way inferior to Dr. Garnett's shilling Life, and written in odious taste and in an exaggerated tone of hero-worship. There is no index, nor even abstract of contents of chapter. What would Carlyle have said to such neglect on the part of a professed admirer?]

BROADFOOT, Major W., R.E. "The Career of Major George Broadfoot, C.B., in Afghanistan and Punjab." (John Murray.)

[Major Broadfoot was Governor-General's Agent for the North-West Frontier in 1844-45; and his papers were found to contain much of the secret history of the relations of our Indian Empire to Afghanistan during the first Afghan war, and with the Punjab prior to the Sikh war. This volume is compiled from his papers and from those of Lords Ellenborough and Hardinge. Pp. 445, portrait and maps. Price 15s.]

BRUCE, A. B. "The Life of William Denny, Shipbuilder, Dumbarton." (Hodder and Stoughton).

[The subject of this life is successively shown (1) as a youth, (2) as an administrator of labour, (3) as a naval architect, (4) as a philanthropic citizen, and (5) as the pioneer in the development of the navigation on the River Plate. Pp. 479, cloth, portrait. Price 12s.]

HAWKINS, MARY W. S. "Plymouth Armada Heroes: The Hawkins Family." (Plymouth: William Brendon and Son. 4to, pp. 190.)

MACGREGOR, LADY. "The Life and Opinions of Major-General Sir Charles Metcalfe Macgregor, Quartermaster-General in India."

[A biography in two volumes. Portrait, maps, and illustrations. Two volumes. Price 35s.]

MARTIN, MRS. CHARLES. "Life of St. Jerome." (London: Kegan Paul.)

[An attempt to introduce Saint Jerome in a familiar and popular form to English readers. Pp. 303, cloth. Price 6s.]

ROSS, JANET. "Three Generations of Englishwomen." (John Murray.)

[The memoirs and correspondence (1) of Mrs. John Taylor, of Norwich; (2) of her daughter, Sarah Austin, the wife of Austin, the author of the book on Jurisprudence; and (3) of their daughter, Lady Duff Gordon. Portraits. Two vols., crown 8vo. Price 24s.

"THE REMINISCENCES AND RECOLLECTIONS OF CAPTAIN GRONOW." (London: John C. Nimmo.)

[An *édition de luxe*, in two volumes, of some famous "Anecdotes of the Camp, Court, Clubs, and Society, 1810—1860." Eight hundred and seventy copies only have been printed. The volume is illustrated with portrait, four woodcuts, and twenty etched and aquatint illustrations from contemporary sources. The illustrations are in duplicate, coloured by hand, and uncoloured.]

TURNER, CHARLES EDWARD. "Count Tolstoi as Novelist and Thinker." (Trübner.)

[An expanded form of some lectures delivered before the Royal Institution. A brief introduction gives the salient points of Tolstoi's career; the rest of the book comprises criticisms of his more significant works. Pp. 190, cloth.]

THEOLOGY.

GEIKIE, CUNNINGHAM, D.D "A Short Life of Christ for Old and Young." (London: Hatchards.)

[Dr. Geikie is well known as the author of "Life and Words of Christ"—a standard work on the great subject. The "Short Life" now published is an entirely new work, and is written for those who have not the time and energy required to master the contents of two large volumes. Pp. 487, cloth; fifty illustrations. Price 7s. 6d.]

HARTMANN, FRANZ, M.D. "The Life of Jehoshua, the Prophet of Nazareth." (London: Theosophical Pub. Co.)

[This is described by the author as an "Occult study and a key to the Bible," and is said, moreover, to contain "the history of an initiate." Pp. 208, cloth.]

HUNT, WILLIAM. "The English Church in the Middle Ages." (Longmans, Green, and Co.)

[A volume of the "Epochs of Church History Series," which is intended to "illustrate the relations of the English Church with the Papacy and with the English State down to the revolt of Wyclif . . . and Great Schism in the Papacy." The history extends from A.D. 597 to 1377. Lists of Archbishops of Canterbury and York are prefixed. Pp. 224, cloth. Price 2s. 6d.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE DRAMATIC YEAR."

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Will you allow me to explain through your columns, as editor of the *Dramatic Year*, that there was no intention of putting the responsibility for that volume upon Mr. William Archer, at least so far as I am concerned, and the use of his name as author upon the cover must have been an error on the part of the binders? This error I have asked the publishers to correct upon future copies. I certainly have no wish to escape criticism under the shelter of Mr. Archer's name; nor do I wish to mislead the English public by attributing to him any further share in the book than the admirable article which he wrote for it. May I add that for the mistakes of the proof-readers, I am as sincerely sorry as he?—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

EDWARD FULLER.

Boston, U.S.A., Nov. 5.

NORTH WALES IN WINTER.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I should like, with your permission, to call the attention of your readers who have to seek a milder climate during the winter months to the health resorts of north Wales, and especially to Colwyn Bay. This new watering place is exceedingly popular in the summer months, but few people are acquainted with its merits as a winter resort. It is bounded by limestone rocks on the east and west, and on the south by the Pwllycrochan woods and pine plantations. To the north, the town overlooks the bay; but as the north winds are very rare the climate is exceedingly dry and mild, and vegetation flourishes throughout the winter. At the present time the forest trees are rich in their autumnal tints, while the arbutus and laurestinus are covered with flowers and fruit. Roses and fuchsias are blooming in the open air, and the wealth of other flowers in many of the gardens here would astonish even those who dwell in the south of England. Wallflowers bloom throughout the winter, and geraniums and other tender bedding-out plants are still blooming in the open. Primroses may be found in abundance; and in the Pwllycrochan Hotel gardens yesterday seven hives of bees were "improving the shining hour," while the skylark was sweetly singing overhead. There are visitors here from the south who, being sufferers from bronchitis or chest afflictions, make Colwyn Bay their home for the winter. For the benefit of the thousands in this country who cannot, from want of time or other circumstances, afford to visit the winter resorts in the Riviera, I would strongly urge a trial of Colwyn Bay. The eminent physician, Sir William Roberts, of Manchester, frequently sends his patients to Colwyn Bay or Llandudno to winter. I need hardly say that hotels, hydropathic establishments, and apartments in both places are plentiful, first-class, and moderate in price. All the North Wales pleasure resorts are over-crowded in summer, but in winter there is ample room and greater comfort for visitors. If you will kindly publish this letter you will confer a favour upon North Wales and be the means of benefiting many who suffer from the rigours of an English winter.—Yours faithfully,

ELLIS LEVER.

Tan-y-Bryn, Colwyn Bay, November 12.

CRITICAL CONDITION OF LONDON'S WATER SUPPLY.

A SOMEWHAT alarming view of the condition of the water supply of London is taken by Major-General Scott in his official Report published in the annual volume of the Local Government Board. "On a general view of the whole circumstances," he says, "it seems evident that the question of the water supply of the north and east of London has entered a critical stage, and it may be said that the restriction in the supply found necessary by the East London Company during the past summer [1887], was a premonitory symptom of difficulties which in future seasons of scanty rainfall will be more severely felt." The Board also remark "that at no very distant period the margin between supply and demand may become perilously small; and that, at any rate in the case of some of the companies, the question how the existing sources can be supplemented from others outside the watersheds of the Thames and Lea, is one of which the consideration cannot be long deferred."

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPANISH RAILWAYS.

THE opening of the Zafra and Huelva Railway marks a new era in the development of the south of Spain. This line starts from the port of Huelva, and extends 113 miles to Zafra, where a junction is effected with the line to Madrid. The railway has cost a quarter of a million sterling, and has been about seven years in construction. A number of heavy tunnels and cuttings had to be made through a spur of the Sierra Marena. Since July, 1886, one-third of the road has been worked, and a satisfactory amount of traffic has been obtained. The district through which the line runs has many features. There is an extensive mineral territory, copper, silver, nickel, lead, antimony, iron, &c., being mined; white and coloured marbles are quarried extensively; fruit and grain are cultivated in the fertile province of Estremadura; and pigs and cattle are reared in large numbers. Impelled by the new railway facilities, mining claims are being taken up and companies formed to develop the varied resources of the country, so that there is a prospect of considerable traffic. One estimate puts the gross receipts at £214,000, which would leave a net revenue of £120,000, or about £50,000 in excess of the total interest and sinking fund required on the total bonded debt of the line. The capital of the company is £1,120,000 in ordinary shares and £2,240,000 in Three per Cent. Obligations, but only half of the latter have been issued. The company have a concession for ninety-nine years, dating from 1884.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.
(AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.30, THE ARMADA.
TO-DAY (Saturday), at 1.30.
Winifred Emery, Edith Bruce, Kate James, Ada Neilson, and Maud Milton; Leonard Boyne, Luigi Lablache, Edward Gardiner, Victor Stevens, A. Beaumont, Henry Loraine, S. Dawson, Mervin Dallas, Stanislaus Calhaem, B. Robins, F. Dobell, Basil West, W. Uridge, F. Harrison, U. Winter, Fitz Davis, W. S. Parkes, H. Denvil, F. Thomas, F. Collings, and Harry Nicholls.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

LAST TWO WEEKS of Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD'S SEASON.
EVERY EVENING, at 8.45. PRINCE KARL. Preceded at 8 by ALWAYS INTENDED.
MATINEE TO-DAY (Saturday), at 2.30.
Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.—LYCEUM.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. HADDON CHAMBERS, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THAT DREADFUL DOCTOR. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING, at 9 with the original cast. Preceded by, at 8.10, THE DOWAGER. Doors open at 7.45. Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity. N.B.—BETSY MATINEE on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Doors open at 2.30.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Mr. THOMAS THORNE, Sole Lessee and Manager.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 209th Time. Preceded at 7.45 by THE BROTHERS. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. William Rignold, Fred Thorne, Cyril Maude, J. S. Blythe, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Frank Gillmore, and Mr. H. B. Conway; Mesdames Kate Rorke, Gladys Homfrey, M. A. Giffard, Banister, B. Harrison, R. McNeill, Bowman, Adlerron, Maunders, G. Arnold, &c. MATINEE of JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART, TO-DAY (Saturday), and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK 107th Time. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Louise Brandon, D. Drummond, E. Burton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE LOTTERY TICKET.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)
The safest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 246th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, F. Kerr, H. Reeves Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Blanche Horlock. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GAIETY THEATRE.

THIS DAY, at 2.30, FAUST UP TO DATE; THIS EVENING, at 7.40, LOT 49, and at 8.30, FAUST UP TO DATE. Miss Florence St. John, Miss Fanny Robina, Miss Jenny M'Nulty, Miss Lillian Price, Miss E. Broughton, Miss M. Jones, Miss F. Levey, Miss A. Young, Miss E. Greville, Miss M. Love; Mr. E. J. Lonnen, Mr. H. Parker, Mr. C. Maude, Mr. W. Lonnen, and Mr. George Stone.

GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN LART.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, THE MONK'S ROOM. Messrs. E. S. Willard, Hermann Vezin, Forbes Dawson, Stephen Caffrey, Ivan Watson, Edward Rose, A. J. Byde, Edwin Shepherd, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Helen Leyton, Marion Lea, E. H. Brooke, Morland, De Solla, &c. At 8, THAT TELEGRAM. MATINEE TO-DAY (Saturday), November 17, at 2.30.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)
(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)

EVERY EVENING, at 9.0 (by arrangement with Mr. JOHN HARE), LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by SYDNEY GRUNDY, and entitled MAMMA. 52nd Performance. Preceded at 8 by BOX AND COX. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10. Telephone 3,031. SPECIAL MATINEES of MAMMA TO-DAY (Saturday), and SATURDAYS, Dec. 1 and 15, at 3.

OPERA COMIQUE.
(Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.)

TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, the successful Comic Opera, CARINA. Mesdames Camille D'Arville, Findlay, Ada Dorée, Jessica Dene, Wilmos, Murray, and Alice Lethbridge; Messrs. Durward Lely, G. H. Snazelle, E. D. Ward, W. Guise, Eric Thorne, H. Halley, and Charles Collette. At 7.30, THE BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER. Doors open at 2 and 7.15. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY. Doors open at 2 o'clock, commence at 2.30. SECOND SPECIAL MATINEE of CARINA WEDNESDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Acting Manager, DOUGLAS COX.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE, Shaftesbury Avenue.
(Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, THE LADY OF LYONS, Miss Wallis, Mesdames Robertha Erskine, H. Leigh, Lamballe; Messrs. Mackintosh, Bassett Roe, Allen Thomas, Matthew Brodie, Charles Arnold, Arthur Fenwicke, Herberte Basing, George Seldon, &c., and Forbes Robertson.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Manager, Mr. H. WATKIN.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, CHASSAIGNE'S New Comic Opera NADGY. Mdlle. Vanoni, Mr. Arthur Roberts, and powerful company. Chorus and Orchestra of 100, conducted by Mr. John Crook. Preceded at 7.30 by QUITS. Doors open at 7.15; Box-office open daily from 10.30 to 5 o'clock. Early application is necessary to secure places. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-DAY (Saturday), and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2. Doors open at 1.30.—R. D'ALBERTSON, Acting Manager.

COMEDY THEATRE. — TO-NIGHT, at 9 o'clock, a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. T. G. Warren, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. Wyes, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, and Miss Scarlett. Preceded, at 8.10, by BARBARA. Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

UNCLES AND AUNTS, TO-NIGHT, at 9. MATINEE TO-DAY (Saturday), at 2 o'clock.—COMEDY THEATRE.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. D'OYLY CARTE.—TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, entitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.20 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 7.

SAVOY.—THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2.0. Box-office open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

STRAND THEATRE.—Under the management of Mr. C. H. HAWTREY, by arrangement with Mr. WILLIE EDOUIN.—TO-NIGHT (Saturday), Nov. 17, will be produced, for the first time, a Burlesque in Three Acts, entitled ATALANTA, at Nine o'clock. Mr. F. Wyatt, Mr. T. Squire, Mr. Fleming Norton, Mr. Rudolph Lewis, Mr. F. Wensley, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey; Miss Alma Stanley, Miss Carlotta Zerbini, Miss Florence Lancaster, Miss Mary Glover, Miss G. Baring, Miss Nellie Bennett, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss S. Baring, and Miss Marie Linden. Preceded, at Eight o'clock, by A HIGHLAND LEGACY. Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. Percy Lyndal, Mr. A. Edgemore, Mr. W. Wyes, Mr. Grahame Wentworth, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss Zerbini. Box-office open from Ten to Five.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Museum, Decorated by Bell. Electric Light. Building warmed. Refreshments by Beguinot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

OLYMPIA.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION.
Heated and Ventilated throughout. Lighted by Electricity on the latest approved principle.
A GRAND CHRISTMAS FAIR of all Nations, with special attractions, will be held on December 1st to February 23rd, 1889. CHRISTMAS FAIR. TOY MAKERS and TOY IMPORTERS (English and Foreign) will be allotted SPACE FREE in best positions. PROMENADE CONCERTS. "THE MESSIAH." CHRISTMAS EVE. Orchestra of Seventy performers. Chorus of Three Hundred.
Full particulars will be duly announced. Prospectus and applications for space of Secretary, Winter Exhibition, Olympia, Kensington, London, W.

ART GALLERY.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION SOCIETY.—THE NEW GALLERY, REGENT-STREET. OPEN DAILY, 10 to 7. Admission, 1s Catalogue, 1s, EVENINGS, 7 to 10 (Thursdays excepted). ADMISSION, 6d. CATALOGUE, 6d.

HOTEL LIST.

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THE
Pall Mall Budget
Of THURSDAY, November 15,
CONTAINS
PORTRAIT of the AUTHOR of "ROBERT ELSMERE."
THE SCENE OF THE LATEST WHITECHAPEL MURDER.
MR. GLADSTONE AT BINGLEY HALL. (Illustrated.)
MR. GLADSTONE'S DRIVE THROUGH THE BLACK COUNTRY. (Illustrated.)
DARK DAYS IN THE DARK CONTINENT.
THE LORD MAYOR'S DAY.
Facsimile of the Invitation Card.
The Banquet to the East End Poor.
An Old Lord Mayor's Procession.
SKETCHES AT THE DOLL SHOW.
"NADGY" AT THE AVENUE THEATRE. (Illustrated.)
SKETCHES AT THE PARNELL COMMISSION.
Cartoon:
SIR CHARLES'S FALL.
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NOTICES.

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THE STARVING RUSSIAN ARTISTS.

Since our last publication we have received the following additional subscriptions:—

Messrs. Franz Thimm and Co.	£3	10	0
"Two Friends"	2	0	0
George Meredith	1	0	0
Llewelyn B. Atkinson	0	10	0
"A Gallery Half-crown"	0	2	6
	£7	2	6

WHO KILLED COCK WARREN?

"Who killed Cock Warren?" At the cry,
"Warren," quoth Echo in reply.
'Tis true his acts a scandal were
Even when they were on the "Square,"
And public protest grew, but then
Bludgeon proved mightier than Pen:
Until our Dogberry in a flurry
Wrote himself down an ass in *Murray*,
And this Head Constable, like Keats
(So one extreme another meets)
Had after all his vital particle
Snuffed out completely by an article.
The Pen, he found in doleful dudgeon
(His own), was mightier than the Bludgeon.
Thus, though exposures he defied,
Having exposed himself, he died—
Concession to his mind was foreign
But Warren was too much for Warren!

THE QUEEN AND "CASSELL'S."

The interest which her Majesty takes in the production of cheap standard works of English literature is illustrated by the communication which Messrs. Cassell and Company have just received from Balmoral respecting their National Library, the volumes of which her Majesty has been graciously pleased to accept:—"The Queen was very much pleased with them (writes Sir Henry Ponsonby), and commands him to return her best thanks for their acceptable present."

SARAH BERNHARDT'S TOMB.

General Boulanger has paid a visit (says the Paris correspondent of the *New York Herald*) to Père Lachaise, and was seen looking with curiosity at the huge tomb of granite, surmounted by a black marble sarcophagus, which Sarah Bernhardt has had constructed in readiness to receive her remains when she leaves the Porte Saint-Martin for another world. This sarcophagus is filled with decayed flowers, for every day Sarah Bernhardt now sends to this tomb all the bouquets and flowers and wreaths which she receives from her admirers. When I visited the cemetery I noticed the ethereal forms of Emile Zola and M. de Blowitz moving about from tomb to tomb, scattering flowers upon their dead acquaintances. Alexandre Dumas was there, too, and General de Galliffet, while Mgr. Freppel might have been seen strolling about, umbrella in hand, distributing immortelles among the graves.

KING MILAN AND THE COMIC PAPERS.

What a coward King Milan is, to be sure! Whilst he is humbugging his own people by promising in the revised Constitution guarantees for the freedom of the press, he has just requested the Austrian and the Hungarian Governments to prohibit all unfriendly references to himself and his divorce affair in the Austrian and Hungarian comic press. Count Taaffe was weak-knee'd enough to yield to the request from the shabby kinglet of the mush-room kingdom, and accordingly the editors of all the comic and society papers in Vienna were summoned the other day before the Public Prosecutor *ad audiendum verbum*. In Hungary the press cannot be muzzled in this high-handed fashion, not even for the sake of worthier persons than Gospodi Milan, and M. Tisza drily refused to make himself ridiculous by threatening journalists, many of whom, by the way, remained all along staunch defenders of Queen Nathalie's rights.

FLOGGING AT THE GOLD COAST.

"I have just received some news" (writes a correspondent) "which may possibly interest those of your readers who erroneously believe that flogging is abolished in her Majesty's service. My correspondent writes from the Gold Coast colony, and I can vouch for his being thoroughly trustworthy as to any statement he may make. A few months ago an expedition was sent, under an officer of about twelve months' service (and who is connected in some way with the Conservative whip) to avenge the death of the late Assistant-Inspector Dalrymple. On the march up to Tabeziare, this officer had several men of the Hausa Force tied up to the guns, and in some cases 106 lashes were administered with a raw hide whip. This, as may be imagined, cut the backs of the unfortunate wretches into strips. These punishments were given for comparatively trivial offences, and the report made to the Governor by the officer commanding the Hausas has been officially burked. I can hardly believe that when the attention of the British public is called to such a barbarity, committed by a police official, they will suffer it to pass unnoticed. The Colonial Office as at present administered, is notably ignorant of everything, except what is written in the carefully-prepared despatches of the Governor.—Yours, JAMBOK."

[We understand that Mr. Forbes, the late Acting Inspector-General, is now in this country. The Government might ask him to contradict, or confirm, our correspondent's story.]

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, AND MONDAY.

SATURDAY.

Working Men's College—T. Raleigh, M.A., on "Gambetta," 8 30.
Mr Arnold Morley opens Lambeth Bath Meetings.
Lord George Hamilton at Hornsey National Hall.
Royal Aquarium—Military Fête.
Lord Randolph Churchill at Metropolitan Music Hall. Edgware-road.
Miss Amy Florence's Concert, Steinway Hall, 8.
Baillie W. Stuart on "Highland Character," Bloomsbury Hall, 8.
H. Cox on "Land Nationalization," Acton Liberal Club, 8; R. Tweddell on "Water Power," Toynbee Hall, 8.
Westminster Teachers' Association (Prizes), Town Hall, 3.
Funeral of Sir Richard Baggallay, Norwood Cemetery, 3.30.
South London Polytechnic, Ferndale-road, Promenade Concerts.

SUNDAY PREACHERS.

The clergy and others sending appointments of preachers are informed that the notices must reach the office not later than the *First Post* on Saturday, or they cannot be inserted.

St. Paul's Cathedral—The Bishop of Glasgow, 10; Canon Gregory, 3.15; Rev. H. M. Villiers, 7.
Westminster Abbey—Canon Maclure, 10; Archdeacon Farrar, 3.
Chapel Royal, Whitehall—Canon Whitaker, 11 and 3.30.
Rolls Chapel, Chancery-lane—Rev. A. W. Milroy, 11.
Chapel Royal, Savoy—Rev. A. Whitehead, 11.30; Rev. Dr. Walden, 7.
Lincoln's Inn Chapel—Rev. Dr. Wace, 11; Rev. C. J. Ball, 3.
Foundling Chapel—Rev. Dr. Momerie, 11.
St. Margaret's, Westminster—Rev. E. N. Smith, 11; Rev. E. S. Savage, 7.
St. Andrew's, Ashley-place—Rev. A. Gerald Bowman, 11 and 7.
St. James's, Westmoreland-street, W.—Rev. H. R. Haweis, 11 and 7.
St. Bride's, Fleet-street—Rev. G. O'Donoghue, 11; Rev. E. C. Hawkins, 7.
St. Philip's, Regent-street, Waterloo-place—Rev. H. Jones, 11.15; Rev. J. Gamble, 7.
St. George's, Bloomsbury—Rev. A. Boyd Carpenter, 11; Rev. H. S. Stork, 7.
St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate—Rev. W. Rogers, 11; Rev. E. Collett, 6.30.
Church of the Good Shepherd, Mansfield-road, N.W.—Rev. C. Mackeson, 11.15 and 7; Rev. R. S. O. Tayler, 3.
St. George's Chapel, Albemarle-street—Rev. Dr. Gray, 11.15 and 6.30; Rev. C. Smith, 4.
St. Marylebone Church—Rev. Canon Barker, 11 and 7.
St. Bartholomew's, Moorfields—Rev. J. Christie, 11; Rev. Blomfield Jackson, 7.
St. George's, Botolph-lane, Eastcheap—Rev. W. H. Wilkins, 11.15; Canon MacColl, 7.
St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside—Rev. A. G. Warner, 11; Rev. E. B. Firth, 6.30.
Christ Church, West Kensington Park—Rev. Arthur Poulton, 11 and 7.
St. Agnes, Kennington Park—Rev. T. B. Dover, 11 and 7.
St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, Queen Victoria-street—Rev. G. W. Allen, 11.15; Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, 7.
Pro-Cathedral, Kensington—Rev. A. B. Gurdon, 11; Rev. J. Vaughan, 7.
French Protestant Evangelical Church, Westbourne-grove, Bayswater—Pasteur du Pontet de la Harpe, 11 and 7.
French Huguenot Church (late St. Martin's-le-Grand), Athenæum Hall (pro tem.), 73, Tottenham-court-road—Pasteur E. Neel, 11 and 7. (Services in French.)
French Protestant Episcopal Church of the Savoy, Bloomsbury-street—Rev. E. Davidson, 11 and 3.

BAPTIST.

Bloomsbury-street—Rev. James Baillie, 11 and 7.
Borough-road, Southwark—Rev. G. H. M'Cree, 11 and 6.30.
Camden-road—Rev. G. Hawker, 11 and 7.
East London Tabernacle, Burdett-road, E.—Rev. Archibald G. Brown, 11 and 6.30.
Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington, S.E.—Messrs. Fullerton and Smith, 11 and 6.30.
New Park-road, Brixton-hill—Rev. W. H. M'Mechan, 11 and 6.30.
Regent's Park Chapel, Park-square East—Rev. F. B. Meyers, 11 and 7.
Upper Holloway—Rev. J. R. Wood, 11 and 7.

CONGREGATIONAL.

Arundel-square, Barnsbury—Rev. H. Elwyn Thomas, 11 and 6.30.
Balham—Rev. Professor Dallinger, 11 and 7.
Barbican Chapel, New North-road—Rev. Ira Boseley, 11 and 6.30.
Bethnal Green-road—Rev. J. Stockwell Watts, 11 and 6.30.
Bishopsgate Chapel—Rev. T. Grear, 11 and 6.30.
Brixton—Rev. Le H. Parsons, 11 and 6.30.
City-road—Rev. George Thompson, 11 and 6.30.
City Temple—Rev. Dr. J. Parker, 11 and 7.
Clapham—Rev. J. Guinness Rogers, 11 and 7.
Claremont, Pentonville-road—Rev. W. Whittley, 11 and 6.30.
Craven Chapel, Foubert's-place, Regent-street—Rev. Arthur Hall, 11 and 7.
Crouch End, Park Chapel—Rev. A. Rowlands, 11 and 6.30.
Dalston, Middleton-road—Rev. W. Justin Evans, 11 and 6.30.
Eccleston-square, Belgrave-road, S.W.—Rev. Dr. Hiles Hitchens, 11 and 7.
Falcon-square, Aldersgate-street—Rev. A. H. Storrow, 11 and 6.30.
Fetter-lane Chapel—Rev. T. Davies, 11 and 6.30.
Finsbury Park Chapel, Seven Sisters-road—Rev. T. Eynon Davies, 11 and 6.30.
Fulham Chapel, Dawes-road, Walham-green—Rev. Jonathan Calvert, 11 and 6.30.
Gospel Oak, Southampton-road, N.W.—Rev. Henry Le Pla, 11 and 7.
Hare-court Chapel, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury—Rev. H. Simon, 11 and 7.
Harley-street, Bow-road, E.—W. Evans Hurndall, 11 and 7.
Highbury-quadrant, Highbury New Park—Rev. S. Pearson, 11 and 6.30.
Highgate—Rev. John Nunn, 11; Rev. J. M. Gibbon, 6.30.
Holloway Chapel, Camden-road—Rev. Mark Wilks, 11 and 6.30.
Junction-road, Upper Holloway—Rev. J. W. Craig, 11 and 7.
Kensington, Allen-street—Rev. Edward White, 11 and 7.
King's Weigh House Chapel, Pillar Hall, Cannon-street Hotel—Rev. A. Sandison, 11 and 6.30.
New-court Chapel, Tollington Park—Rev. C. Clark, 11 and 6.30.
Notting-hill, Kensington Park-road—Rev. W. Roberts, 11; Rev. R. Macbeth, 7.
Paddington, Marylebone-road—Rev. G. Douglas Macgregor, 11 and 7.
Tolmer's-square, N.W.—Rev. F. Hastings, 11 and 7.
Union Chapel, Islington—Rev. W. Houghton, 11 and 6.30; Service of Praise, 3.30.
West Kensington, Castletown-road—Rev. A. Norris, 11 and 7.
Westminster, James-street, Buckingham-gate—Rev. H. Arnold, 11; Rev. Dr. W. H. S. Aubrey, 7.
Whitefield's Tabernacle, Tottenham-court-road—Rev. W. Scott, 11 and 7.

WESLEYAN METHODIST.

Bayswater, Denbigh-road—Rev. J. Olphert, 11; Rev. G. E. Scutt, 6.30.
Brixton-hill—Rev. J. Kinnings, 11; Rev. F. J. Sharr, 6.30.
City-road—Rev. W. G. Pascoe, 10.45 and 6.30.
Great Queen-street—Rev. Charles Dawe, 11; Rev. John H. Sholl, 6.30.
Liverpool-road, Islington—Rev. J. Clegg, 11; Rev. A. Dyson, 6.30.
New Surrey Chapel, Blackfriars-road (Primitive)—Rev. B. Senior, 11, 3, and 6.30.
Roupell Park—Rev. F. J. Sharr, 11; Rev. J. Kinnings, 6.30.
Streatham—Rev. W. J. Elvy, 11; Rev. E. T. Smith, 6.30.
West Norwood—Rev. E. T. Smith, 11; Rev. W. J. Elvy, 6.30.
Wesleyan West Central Mission, St. James's Hall—Rev. Mark Guy Pearse, 11; Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, 3.30 and 7.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Belgrave, Halkin-street, W.—Rev. E. H. Jones, 11 and 7.
Colebrooke-row, Islington—Rev. Dr. Davidson, 11; Rev. Newman Hall, 6.30.
Crouch-hill, N.—Rev. J. B. Meharry, 11 and 6.30.
Highgate, Highgate-hill—Rev. M. Kirkpatrick, 11 and 7.
Kensington, Allen-street—Rev. Charles Moinet, 11 and 7.
Marylebone, Upper George-street, Bryanston-square—Rev. J. R. Gillies, 11; Professor Elmslie, 7.
Regent's-square.—Rev. H. MacMillan 11 and 7.
St. Columba's Church, Pont-street, Belgravia—Rev. Dr. Macleod, 11; Rev. J. N. Stuart, 7.

OTHER SERVICES AND ADDRESSES.

Bedford Chapel, Bloomsbury—Rev. Stopford A. Brooke, 11.15 and 7.
Bloomsbury Hall, Meard-street, Dean-street, Soho—Mr. W. Harrison, 11.30 and 7.
Christ Church, Westminster-road—Rev. Newman Hall, 11; Rev. Dr. Davidson, 6.30.
Edinburgh Castle, Limehouse, E.—Ned Wright, 11; Rev. H. Bright, 3 and 7.
Essex Church, Notting-hill Gate (Unitarian)—Rev. W. Carey Walters, 11 and 7.
Exeter Hall, Strand—Mr. E. J. Kennedy (men only), 3.45; Mr. E. Kerwin (public), 7.30.
Gresham Hall, Brixton—Rev. R. Macmillan, 11 and 7.
Great Assembly Hall, Mile-end-road, E.—Mr. R. Coade, 11 and 6.45.
Little Portland-street Chapel (Unitarian), near Oxford-circus—Rev. J. E. Carpenter, 11.15; Rev. F. H. Jones, 7.
Rotherhithe Free Church, Deptford Lower-road—Mr. S. Golding, 11 and 6.30.
Speke Hall, Battersea (close to Clapham Junction)—Mr. Reader Harris, 11 and 7.
The Theistic Church, Swallow-street, Piccadilly—Rev. C. Voysey 11 and 7.

SUNDAY LECTURES.

South-place Institute, Finsbury—Dr. Stanton Coit, on "The Evils of Scepticism," 11.15; Rev. S. Beal, on "Buddhism in China," 4.
Progressive Association, The Hall, 81, Pentonville-road—Mr. J. L. Mahon, on "The Future of London Government," 7.
Positivist Society, Newton Hall, Fetter-lane—Mr. Frederic Harrison, on "Early Roman Civilization," 4; Professor Beesly, on "The Universal Church," 8. 61, Fonthill-road, Finsbury Park—Dr. Kaines, on "The Laws of Human Order," 7.
Star Radical Club, Railton-road, Herne-hill—Mr. M. J. Jackman, on "Events of the Week," 11.30.; Mr. R. Russell, on "Giants Political," 8.
217, Fulham-road—Mr. J. Brailsford Bright, on "Relief Communes," 8.
The Socialist League, Kelmscott House, Upper Mall, Hammersmith—Miss Edith Simcox, on "The New International and Socialism," 8.
Ethical Society, Essex Hall, Essex street, Strand—Mr. B. F. C. Costelloe, on "Culpable Luxury," 7.30.
Toynbee Hall, 28, Commercial-stree, E.C.—Mrs. Bryant, on "The Ideals of Character," 7.30.
Sunday Lecture Society, St. George's Hall, Langham-place—Sir R. S. Ball, on "Comets and Shooting Stars," 4.
South Peckham Liberal Club, 19, Linden-grove—Mr. F. Verinder, on "A Churchman's Plea for Free Schools," 8.
Athenæum Hall, George-street, Euston-road—Mr. H. M. Hyndman, on "The New International," 7.30.

MONDAY.

The Rev. Father McFadden, M.P., at Bessborough Mission Hall, 8.15.
Professor Hales on "Ballad Poetry," Bedford College, 4.
Working Lads' Institute, Whitechapel—Distribution of Prizes by the Lord Mayor, 7.
Mr. James Burns on "Vaccination," Anderton's Hotel, 7.30.
St. George's Rifles Cinderella Dance, Portman Rooms, 8.

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A PUBLIC MEETING to PROTEST AGAINST the REACTIONARY PROPOSALS of the MAJORITY will be held in EXETER HALL on TUESDAY NEXT, 20th inst., at 7 P.M. The Right Hon. A. J. MUNDELLA, M.P., will preside, and the Right Hon. J. Stansfeld, M.P., Hon. Lyulph Stanley, Professor Stuart, M.P., Rev. H. Price Hughes, Rev. C. Williams, &c., will speak. Tickets at 32, Outer Temple, Strand; Harris and Co., 5, Bishopsgate-street; Buckmaster's, 46, Newington Butts; and at Exeter Hall.
THOS. E. MINSHALL, Secretary.

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H.R.H. Princess Christian has appointed NOVEMBER 20th for the OPENING of the ANNUAL WINTER SALE, which will continue up to Christmas, but during the first two days will be presided over by the ladies of the committee and others, open from Two till Seven o'clock.
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IN PARLIAMENT.—SESSION 1889.

METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.

(Railway at Chesham; Additional Lands; Further Powers for Completion of portion of Aylesbury and Rickmansworth Railway, and as to constituting the same a separate Undertaking; Running Powers over Aylesbury and Buckingham Railway; Further provisions as to Surplus Lands; Additional Powers to Surplus Lands Committee; Power to Use Electricity and other Motive Power; Amendment of Acts.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that APPLICATION is intended to be made to Parliament in the next Session by the Metropolitan Railway Company (hereinafter called "the Company") for an Act for the following purposes, or some of them (that is to say):—

To enable the Company to make and maintain the following railway in the county of Buckingham, with all proper stations, approaches, sidings, works, and conveniences connected therewith, that is to say:—

A railway, 7 furlongs and 1 chain, or thereabouts, in length, commencing in the parish of Chesham Bois, in the county of Buckingham, by a junction with the authorized branch of the Metropolitan Railway to Chesham, now in course of construction, at or near the north-west corner of a close of land numbered 28 on the plans deposited with the Clerk of the Peace for the county of Buckingham in November, 1884, in respect of the Metropolitan Railway Act, 1885 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act of 1885"), authorizing that railway, and terminating in the parish of Chesham, in the county of Buckingham, in a field numbered 1293 on the large scale (25 inch) ordnance map at or near the northern fence thereof, and 2 chains or thereabouts from the north-west corner thereof measured in a south-easterly direction, which said intended railway will pass from, in, through, or into, or be situated within the parishes or places of Chesham Bois and Chesham, or one of them.

It is proposed to take, for the purposes of the intended Act, a portion of the Common or Commonable land known as "The Moor," in the said parishes of Chesham Bois and Chesham, of which it is estimated that 0 a. 2 r. 13 p. will be included within the limits of deviation, and 0 a. 0 r. 33 p. will be required to be taken.

To empower the Company to cross, divert, alter, or stop up, whether temporarily or permanently, all such turnpike and other roads, highways, streets, pipes, wires, telegraph and electric apparatus, sewers, streams, rivers, and bridges, as may be necessary for the purposes of the intended works, or of the intended Act.

To authorize the Company to purchase and take by compulsion or otherwise, lands, houses, tenements, and hereditaments for the purposes of the intended railway and works, and in addition thereto to purchase and take, by compulsion or otherwise, the lands hereinafter described (that is to say):—

Certain lands in the Parishes of Great Missenden and Little Missenden, or one of them, in the County of Buckingham, being the lands numbered 806 on the large scale 25-inch ordnance map of that county.

To authorize the purchase of a portion only of any property which may be required for the purposes of the intended Act, without the Company being subject to the liability imposed by Section 92 of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845.

To continue and extend, and, if necessary, to revive the powers conferred by the Aylesbury and Rickmansworth Railway Act, 1881, as extended by the Metropolitan Railway (Various Powers) Act, 1884, and the Act of 1885, for the completion of so much of the railway authorized by the said Aylesbury and Rickmansworth Railway Act, 1881, as lies between the authorized point of commencement of such railway, and the point of commencement of the said railway, authorized by the Act of 1885 (except so much of the first-mentioned railway and works as was by the same Act authorized to be abandoned).

To empower the Company, on such terms and conditions and on payment of such tolls and rates as may be agreed on, or may be settled by arbitration or be provided by the intended Act, to run over, work, and use with their engines, carriages, and waggons, and officers and servants, whether in charge of any engines or trains or for any other purposes, and for the purposes of their traffic of every description, the railways and stations of the Aylesbury and Buckingham Railway Company.

To repeal, alter, amend, extend, and enlarge the provisions of the Act of 1885, enabling the Company to constitute the Aylesbury and Rickmansworth Railway a separate undertaking, and to provide that any portion of the said Railway may be a separate undertaking, with separate capital, and to extend to any such separate undertaking or capital some or all of the provisions of the Act of 1885, applicable thereto, with such variations or additions as may be deemed expedient, or may be prescribed or provided for by the intended Act, and to make further provision with reference thereto, and to the intended Railway and to the capital authorized to be raised for the same.

To empower the Company to purchase on the terms prescribed by the scheme set forth in the schedule to the Metropolitan Railway Act, 1887, or on such other terms as may be prescribed or authorized by the intended Act, any lands, houses, tenements, and hereditaments of whatever tenure belonging to or under the control and management of the Metropolitan Railway Surplus Lands Committee (hereinafter called the Surplus Lands Committee), and which may be required from time to time by the Company for the purposes of their railway stations and works.

To enable the Surplus Lands Committee to acquire by agreement and to hold, sell, lease, or appropriate for building lands and property as well of leasehold as of freehold tenure.

To amend Section 39 of the Act of 1885 in such manner with reference to the retirement and appointment of elective members of the Surplus Lands Committee, the payment of dividends, and other matters relating to the control and management of the surplus lands of the Company, or of the said Committee, as may be defined by the intended Act.

To empower the Company and all persons, bodies, and Companies lawfully using their railways and works to work and use the same by means of carriages and engines propelled by electricity, or any mechanical or other power other than steam power, and either in addition to or in substitution for steam power.

To empower the Company to levy tolls, rates, and charges; to alter existing tolls, rates, and charges; to confer, vary, or extinguish exemptions from payment of tolls, rates, and charges, and to vary and extinguish all rights and privileges which might in any way prevent or interfere with the accomplishment of any of the objects of the intended Act, and to confer other rights and privileges.

To empower the Company to apply to all or any of the purposes of the intended Act any capital or funds belonging to them or under their control.

To repeal, alter, or amend all or some of the provisions of the several Acts of Parliament hereinbefore mentioned, and also of the Metropolitan Railway Act, 1854, and the several other Acts relating to the Company, and the Aylesbury and Buckingham Railway Act, 1860, and the several other Acts relating to the Aylesbury and Buckingham Railway Company.

AND NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that plans and sections in duplicate describing the line and levels of the railway and works proposed to be authorized by the intended Act, and also showing the lands, houses, and property sought to be acquired under the powers thereof, with a book of reference to such plans, and an ordnance map showing the general course of the intended railway, will be deposited for public inspection with the Clerk of the Peace for the county of Buckingham at his office at Aylesbury, and so much of the said plans, sections, and book of reference as relates to each parish in which the said railway and lands will be situate, will be deposited with the clerk of such parish at his residence. Every such deposit will be made on or before the 30th day of November, 1888, and will be accompanied by a copy of this notice as published in the *London Gazette*.

Printed copies of the intended Act will be deposited in the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons on or before the 21st day of December, 1888.

Dated this 13th day of November, 1888.

ROBERT W. PERKS,
9, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.; Solicitor for the Bill.

SHERWOOD and CO.,
7, Great George-street, Westminster; Parliamentary Agents.

IN PARLIAMENT.—SESSION 1889.

LONDON COAL AND WINE DUTIES CONTINUANCE ACT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that it is intended to APPLY TO PARLIAMENT in the ensuing Session for an Act to continue the London Coal and Wine Duties or some or one of them or some portion or portions thereof respectively and to alter such duties, and to confer, vary, or extinguish exemptions therefrom, and to provide for the appropriation and application thereof to such public improvements, open spaces, and works, or in such manner as may be prescribed by Parliament; and for the purposes aforesaid it is intended to amend and enlarge the powers and provisions of the several London Coal and Wine Duties Acts, including, amongst others, the London Coal and Wine Duties Continuance Acts, 1861, 1863, and 1868.

Dated this 9th day of November, 1888.

G. PRIOR GOLDNEY, Remembrancer,
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OROYA	[illegible]	7,000	Nov. 23
ORIZABA	6,1[illegible]4	7,000	Dec. 7
LIGURIA	4,688	4,200	Dec. 21
AUSTRAL	5,588	7,000	Jan. 4
IBERIA	4,702	4,[illegible]00	Jan. 18
ORMUZ	6,116	8,[illegible]00	Feb. 1

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